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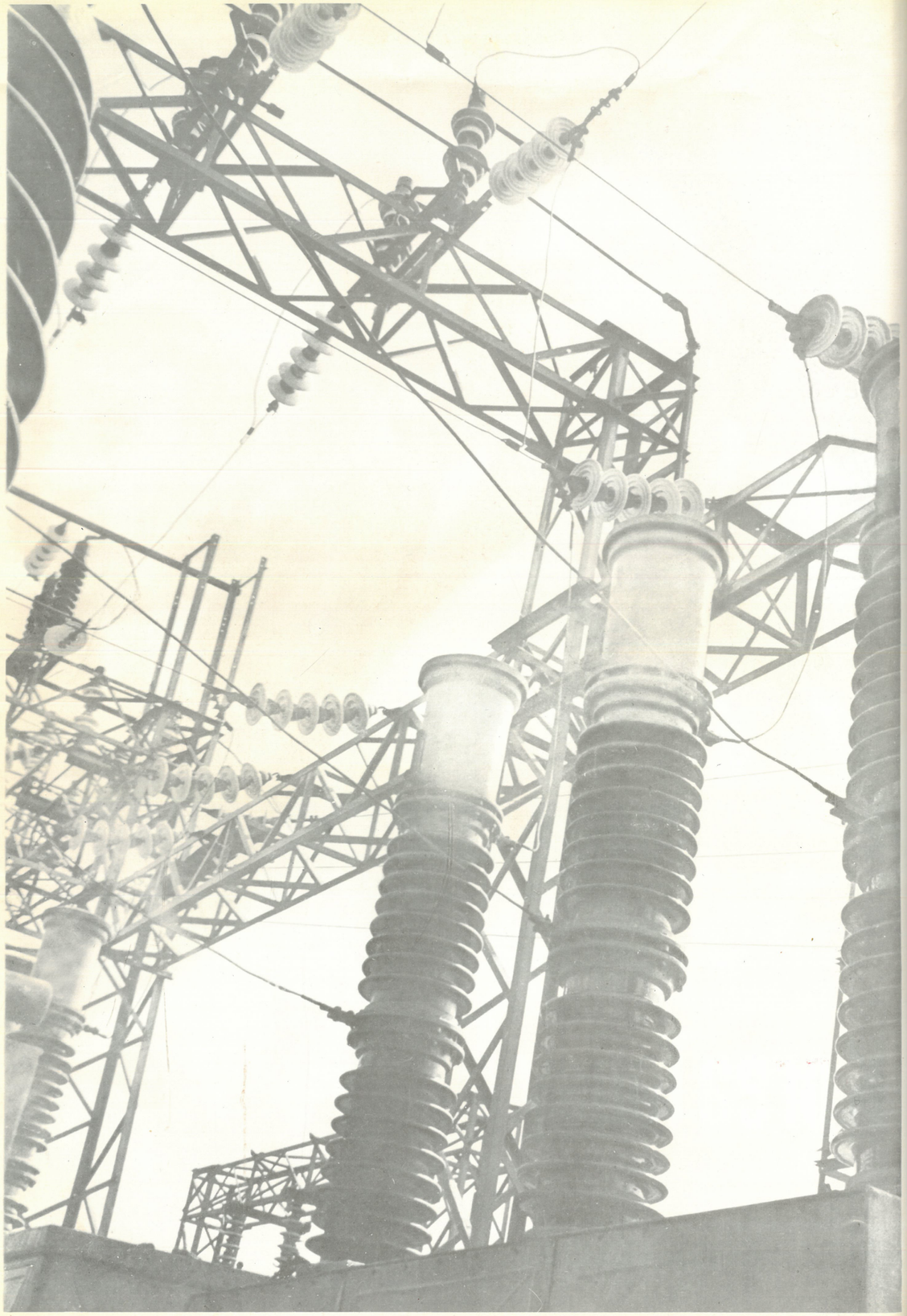

Korea Today

MONTHLY JOURNAL

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Pyongyang

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FRONT COVER: For the advancement of national music there are the State National Art Theatre and the Dancing Theatre in the country. Beside these, in Pyongyang and every province is also a song and dance troupe.

Our photo shows Ko Sook Ja of the South Hamkyung Province Song and Dance Troupe—she is a Kayakeum (a stringed national musical instrument) player in the folk orchestra

Photo by Choi Ryong Chul

INSIDE FRONT COVER: Electricity is flowing to the countryside

INSIDE BACK COVER: Some of the plastic goods produced in the country

BACK COVER: The snow-clad Moranbong Hill

Photo by Han Sung Gul

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NO ONE RECOGNIZES IT

At the bidding of Washington another show of mockery was staged in Seoul and Tokyo.

The South Korean puppet regime and the Sato government of Japan railroaded the South Korea-Japan basic treaty and some 30 other agreements and pacts through the national assembly and the House of Representatives.

Brutally suppressing the mass struggle of the people against the Seoul-Tokyo treaty, on August 14 the Pak Jung Hi clique announced the national assembly ratifying the treaty—only Pak's party members were present.

The performance of Mr. Sato was more stunning. Only 35 seconds. That's all illustrious Mr. Sato needed to have the treaty ratified by the Diet!

This is an open challenge to the Korean and Japanese peoples and the peace-loving people of the world who strongly oppose the South Korea-Japan treaty. These shameful performances exposed the aggressive nature of the treaty and agreements.

The South Korea-Japan agreement is a product of U.S. policy of aggression on Asia. In the South Korea-Japan talks the U.S. aggressors saw a way to reinforce their tottering colonial rule in South Korea. It is their intention to knock together puppets in Tokyo and Seoul and step up their policy for war and aggression in Asia.

The Japanese militarists who have been waiting for an opportunity for a comeback to South Korea are to make their wild dreams come true with Washington's backing. In the meantime, the Pak Jung Hi clique, the faithful dogs of the American and Japanese imperialists, are doing every thing to pave the way for the Japanese to return to South Korea. It is Pak's hope that the Japanese will give him a helping hand to hold up his crumbling position. Even a South Korean publication commented that the Seoul-Tokyo treaty is "an agreement between the colonialists and a colony and a pact between the master and the servant."

As is known, the rulers of Washington have long endeavored for the conclusion of the South Korea-Japan treaty since 1951, when they were suffering repeated setbacks in their war of aggression in Korea. It was their hope to draw the Japanese militarists into the Korean war so as to release their hard-pressed situation in Korea. However, their schemes did not work in face of the strong resistance of the Korean and Japanese peoples. For fourteen years their schemes remained immaterialized. As 1965 came around, Washington worked like mad to have the Pak Jung Hi clique and the reactionary Sato government conclude the South Korea-Japan treaty at any cost. Thus, the American puppets in Seoul and Tokyo signed the South Korea-Japan treaty and agreements and had their national assemblies passed it in a fraudulent way in June and November last year.

This fact shows how wildly Washington is working to drag the militarists of Japan revived by U.S. imperialism into its aggressive plans on Asia and use them as its shock brigade.

In particular, as their position becomes hopeless in Vietnam, the U.S. imperialists are all the more frantic to have the Japanese militarists as their open partner in their aggression on Asia. The Pentagon has schemed to put together the U.S. puppets in South Korea and Japan, and, on this basis, form the "northeast Asia military alliance" by lining up all other puppets of Washington in Asia.

Taking advantage of U.S. aggressive policy, the Japanese military forces revived with the blessing of the American imperialists, are working to make their unsuccessful old dream of "Great Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" come true by turning South Korea into a stepping stone to expansion.

Now the Sato administration makes no secret of that the Seoul-Tokyo treaty being the first step for its overseas expansion. It is clamouring that Japan should be an anti-communist bastion" in Asia to "cope with" the Asian socialist countries. To this end, the Japanese rulers persist: It would be necessary to "formally place South Korea and Taiwan in Japan's sphere of influence, commit economic penetration and hold political rule in Southeast Asia." All this shows how frantic the Sato clique is in their scheme to push ahead with their aggressive plans.

Through the Seoul-Tokyo treaty the U.S. and Japanese imperialist aggressors are working to set up "a joint work system of South Korea, United States, and Japan," "ministrial council of South Korea, U.S., and Japan," "an international credit mission for South Korea," and "joint military plans." Under the instruction of the Pentagon the Japanese expansionists have drawn up what is known as "Operation Three Arrows"—a plan designed for aggression in Asia. Thus the Japanese militarist forces are bent on wrecking the peace and security in the Far East and Asia. Moreover, they have made their appearance as the arch enemy of the peoples of Korea and Japan and whole Asia.

With the conclusion of the Seoul-Tokyo treaty the U.S. and Japanese imperialists have created a new obstruction to Korea's peaceful unification without outside interference, and converted South Korea into their common colony and a hotbed of war.

Yet, no matter how hard the aggressors and traitors may work, never can they reverse the wheel of history.

The Sato government and the Pak Jung Hi clique may do everything to commit aggression and treachery, but it is to their advantage to realize that the Korean people are not what they were yesterday.

Today the Korean people have the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a prospering and developing country. Having built up a powerful revolutionary base in North Korea, they have grown in strength, they can defend by themselves the honour and dignity of the nation.

The entire Korean people are well aware of the cunning aggressive schemes of Japanese imperialism and of the shameful nature of the traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique.

And they clearly see what the Seoul-Tokyo treaty would bring to the country and nation, and what a grave situation it would create against peace of the Far East and the world.

That is why the South Korean people have been fighting in an unyielding spirit against outside interference and the traitors. The South Korean students have waged the staunch struggle to frustrate the Japanese invasion and the treachery of the puppets. The April 19 Uprising in 1960 will be remembered in the history of the country, along with the March 24 and June 3 struggles.

Today the South Korean people turn the spearhead of their attack not only to the South Korea-Japan treaty but to the U.S. imperialists, the very architect of aggression.

In all parts of Japan, too, the people are fighting to smash the Seoul-Tokyo treaty.

On November 16, 1965, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement declaring that the South Korea-Japan treaty is null and void and that no Korean would recognize it. The statement reflects the firm stand of the Korean people who will commit the treaty to fire. The peoples of Korea and Japan and the entire peace-loving people of the world are against this shameful treaty.

The joint struggle of these peoples will frustrate the criminal manoeuvres of Washington, Seoul, and Tokyo for sure.

A rally was held in Moranbong Theatre, Pyongyang, on December 17 in protest against the traitorous "South Korea-Japan treaty"

On December 18 demonstrators pressed toward the capitol building in Seoul. Their streamer read: "No" to the exchange of ratifications of the ROK-Japan treaty

The helmeted policemen try to stop the demonstrating Seoul citizens who demand: "Down with the exchange of ratifications of the Seoul-Tokyo Treaty!"

At a surface mine

"BLACK GOLD" OF WESTERN KOREA

Korea's northwestern region is a major hard coal producing centre. Among many mines in these regions Ryungdai in Anjoo, Joyang in Kaichun, and Sinchang are the largest ones. In late autumn last year we visited this area.

At the Mine Face

It was an early morning when we arrived at the Chunsung Pit. We saw hundreds of young helmeted miners lining up on the square in front of the pit. They were about to start the new shift.

"This is the entry to the Chunsung Pit. From here the double-track coal car line runs to every face of the coal mine.

This is what Li Bong Sup, head of the pit, told us.

We went down to a face by a skip to see three rock drills tunnelling into the grayish rock walls. Their deafening sounds reminded us of machine-guns firing in a volley.

According to the commander of the tunnelling company Joo Sung Bok, it took them as much as three hours to prepare for charging explosives in the past, but now only 1.5 hours.

At a near face a loading machine was busy loading overburden. How fast it worked! In no time a mountain of overburden was on the train. The operator told us. "This job was a nasty one in the tunnelling work, and even a healthy man could not take it for long. But now we have the loading machine—they really make things easy for us. Time has been cut to one-fifth too. And all these machines are produced in the country."

Pak Byung Sik, the chief engineer of the Administrative Bureau of Western Coalfields, was taking us around. When we asked him how the tunnelling was proceeding he said that tunnelling is done before all other works. In the recent years at the collieries man power, equipment, and fund are allocated equally to tunnelling and mining. Various up-to-date tunnelling methods have been applied on an extensive scale and tunnelling was given a decisive priority. Now the coal mines in this region have done enough tunnelling to collect coal for three years.

At a face we met two miners. One of them was operating a coal pick run by compressed air which cut the coal bed. The other was shoveling up coal on the conveyer. We met at other face Choi Choon Sik famed for his suggestions and new ideas. He had been decorated several times during the Patriotic War of Liberation (June, 1950-July, 1953), now he is a good miner here. In the early part of 1965 the miners of his company suggested a new mining method to economize props by 50 per cent and to increase the hewing of anthracite by more than 90 per cent. It brought a great advance in coal mining, and his suggestions have been adopted at all coal mines.

In the lunch time we were in the miners' lounge deep in the pit. Being there one could hardly imagine we were 400 metres down in the bosom of the earth. The well illuminated lounge was of two rooms whose walls and ceiling were reinforced concrete and the floor was paved with artificial marble. There was a chrysanthemums pot and a gold-fish tank on the table in the centre of a room, the other was a sort of canteen.

After lunch the miners enjoyed one of two games at chess, too.

When the recess was over, the miners went back to the pit singing.

At an Open-pit

The Joyang Coal Mine is a leading open-pit in the western coalfields. When our train pulled into the station it was ten in the evening, but all the peaks were brightly lit.

With the rapidly growing machine-building industry of the country, it can turn out excavators and heavy lorries needed for open cut mining. In recent years, consequently, more surface mining is being done. Before liberation there was little surface mining in Korea, but now more than 20 per cent of coal mined is from open mines.

It was in 1954 that surface mining started here in this mine. Only two excavators were employed then. From 1958 to 1965 the number of excavators and lorries in the mine increased 4.8 and 12 times respectively.

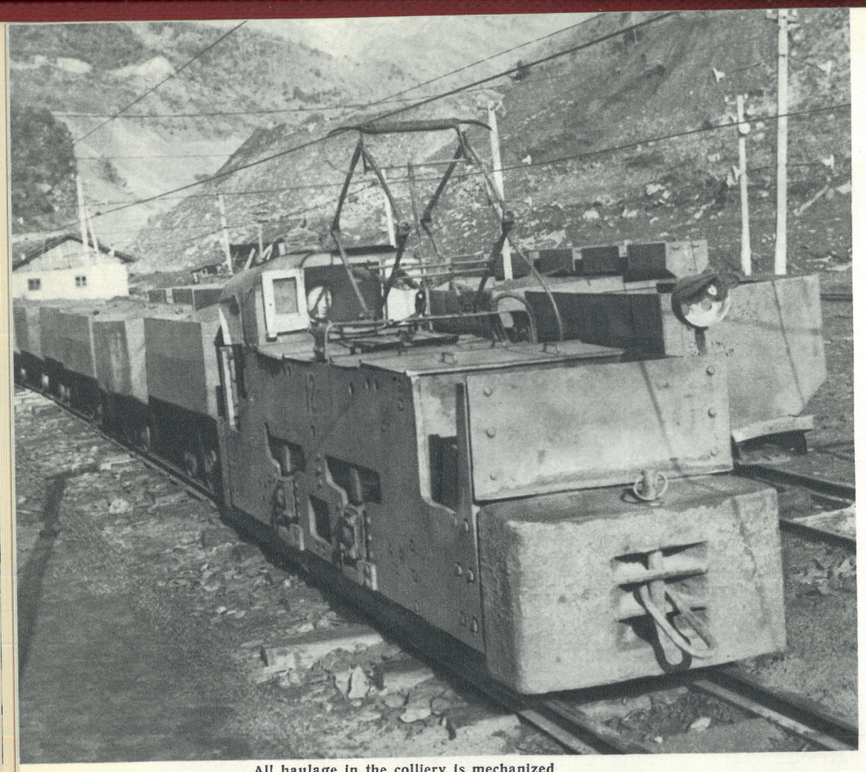
At first we went to the "Youth Pit" where overburden was being loaded. Pak Jong Soon, leader of the platoon, was operating the "Chullima" excavator. We were told every day he surpasses the volume of overburden over twice than is set for the day.

We made our way to Kamtoo-bong Hill, another open shaft. From the mine conveyers carry coal to the wagons.

They said that the volume of overburden this open-pit removes every year will make a few hills. Only a small force of miners are working here as excavators and lorries do the work.

"We are supposedly miners, but in reality we are some sort of mechanics because over

A surveying team is on the job at a surface mine



All haulage in the colliery is mechanized

80 per cent of us are operators or repairmen." Thus spoke chief engineer of the technical section of the mine Kim Kyung Yung.

More Coal for the Country

While waiting for the train for Pyongyang at the railway station, we talked to the station master who told us the following.

"In recent years, the volume of freight that our station is handling has increased greatly, particularly the volume of coal. Even in 1964, the volume of coal shipped out from this region was not too big, but today it is incomparable. And our station is getting busier every day."

The words of the station master spoke of the increasing volume of coal output here. In the Joyang Coal Mine which we visited, coal output has doubled during the past five years. Moreover, in accordance with the policy of the Korean Workers' Party of simultaneously developing coal mines of all sizes—big, medium, and small with emphasis on the big ones—more than 380 medium and small coal mines have been opened in western Korea, which, it is estimated, would give 4,000,000 tons of coal in 1965.

When our train stopped at a station, we saw coal trucks busy running to and fro. And we thought of the young miners of Ryungdai, Sinchang, and Joyang, who told us: "We will surely make the coal target!"

They have started to use iron props instead of wood

The members of the Chullima Hwang Yuk Hak Platoon of the Ryungdai Coal Mine after their shift

SMALL POWER STATIONS IN ELECTRIFICATION

YODUK County, South Hamgyung Province, is situated in a steep mountain district, some 1,000 metres above sea level.

It is so remote that the place had not seen electric lights until a few years ago. The stiff mountains blocked electricity from coming into the village.

However, now in Yoduk County there are 24 small power stations—all built at the time when the great upsurge took place in the country's socialist construction.

Way back in September 1958 the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea discussed a series of measures to be taken for the acceleration of socialist construction relying upon the rising enthusiasm of the masses. The plenum sent the Red Letter to all members of the Party, calling upon them to reject passivism and conservatism and to be bold in thinking and practising and make continuous advance and uninterrupted innovation so as to speed up the country's socialist construction.

In the field of power industry, in order to accelerate the country's electrification the government adopted the policy of constructing and expanding large hydro and thermo power stations, and, in parallel with this, building medium and small power plants.

And the people of this region started to build on their own electric power stations in their villages. Nature is rather favourable; there are many valleys and many streams. At first they built a small watermill on an experimental basis, with which they could work a 23 kilowatt dynamo to generate electricity. This emboldened everyone.

Now the whole county was out to build power plants; and everyone—workers, peasants, office workers, and students—took part in the construction work.

From the state-run factories came generators. Several small power stations appeared by the gushing springs or on the turbulent streams.

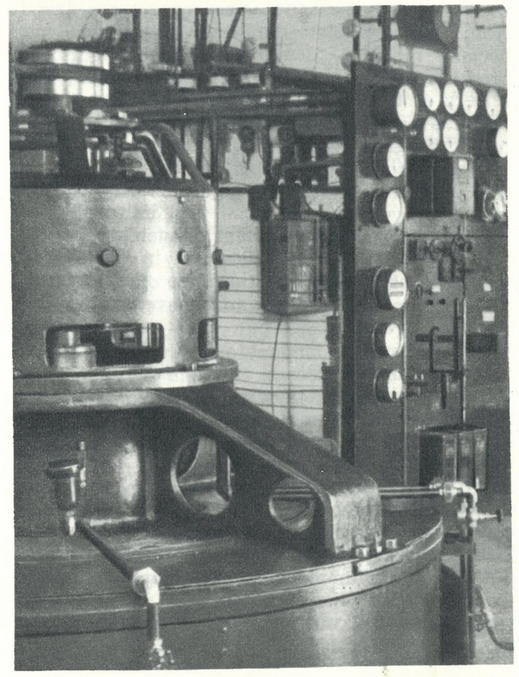
In Yoduk County there are altogether 25 townships and *ri* (the lowest administrative unit), of which 22 receive electricity generated in the county, and the rest being near to the plain areas get electricity from the giant electric power stations.

The generated power goes to the houses, to the six local factories in the county, which produce various industrial products—fabrics, farm implements, foodstuffs, paper, daily necessities, etc. It is also used in farming and animal husbandry by the twenty-two co-operative farms of this county. For several years the peasants have been using power in pumping, threshing, and preparing the animal feed. Almost all the heavy work is done by machines. Formerly field cropping was predominent in this place, but now more rice is being cultivated since electricity has come—they can pump up water easily.

The Daisook Co-operative Farm in the northern part of the county has four small power plants, two of which are solely used by the farm for its work.

The county plans to build another 15 power stations of medium and small sizes in 1966, including one with a capacity of 1,500 kw.

Part of the small power station built on the Ryongheung River



On the "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country" (2)

ON THE NEED OF CONTINUING THE REVOLUTION IN THE SOCIALIST COUNTRYSIDE

Continued revolution is a stand to which our country has firmly adhered. And this has been fully demonstrated in solving the agrarian and peasant questions.

In the early days after the liberation, the country carried out land reform in the stage of the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution.

The land reform put an end to the feudal relations of land ownership in the countryside; and the peasants saw their centuries-old wishes come true—now the peasants were freed from feudal exploitation and oppression, and became masters of land. The agricultural productive forces were also freed from the fetters of feudal relations of production and a broad avenue was open for agriculture for rapid progress, accompanied by possibilities for enlightenment in the countryside, which will enable the peasants to cast aside ignorance and improve their material and cultural life.

Land reform was an event of weighty political and economic significance in our countryside. Yet it was but the first step towards the solution of the agrarian and peasant questions.

As a result of land reform the small-commodity economy became to hold sway in the countryside. As is generally known, so long as the private farming prevails, it would be impossible to do away with the very sources of exploitation and poverty, as the small commodity economy would inevitably invite class differentiation from the differences in the conditions of production. Nor can the private farming being small-scale and individualistic develop in a planned way and adopt advanced technique extensively. Then most of the private peasants could hardly carry out the expanded reproduction.

Such being the case, the way of solving the agrarian and peasant question was to be found in casting aside private ownership and going over to the large-scale socialist economy.

In the stage of the socialist revolution, in our country, upholding the voluntary principle and showing its superiority, agricultural co-operation was completed along the socialist path in a very short time.

The victory of agricultural co-operation liquidated once and for all the sources of exploitation and poverty that had existed in our countryside for thousands of years. It has turned our countryside into a socialist one where all the peasants can enjoy a happy life, and made them socialist working people. It also comletely freed agriculture from the fetters of old relations of production, paving the way for progress. Moreover, agricultural cooperation brought about new changes in the material and cultural standards of the peasants.

The accomplishment of agricultural co-operation thus opened up a broad road to the solution of the peasant and agrarian questions.

However, it was unthinkable even after the completion of agricultural co-operation the lag of peasants and country behind the working class and town, that had lasted for thousands of years, would disappear overnight. Therefore, agricultural co-operation does not mean the final solution of the peasant and agrarian questions.

In this connection in his "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in our Country" Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out that even after the triumph of socialist co-operation in town and country the revolution must go on for the complete victory of socialism and for the gradual transition to communism.

Then what are the reasons for continuing the revolution in the countryside where socialist co-operation has been completed?

Firstly, even under socialism, agriculture, compared with industry, has a weaker material and technical foundation, the cultural standard of the rural population is not up to par with that of the urban dwellers, and the level of consciousness of the peasants is lower than that of the workers.

In the country an independent industrial system with the machine-building industry as its core has been established but agriculture is lagging behind technically.

The working class in the urban areas enjoy a cultural life in all domains—education, culture, arts and public health. They possess a high level of general education and technological knowledge. Contrary to this, the farmers have failed to acquire enough general education and technical skill needed in socialist agriculture and their life is not on par with the workers. Then the peasantry is in a relatively lower level ideologically than the working class.

All this backwardness shows that the revolution has not yet been completed in the countryside.

Accordingly, to eliminate the distinctions between town and country and the class distinctions between the working class and peasantry, to make country catch up with town the revolution should be carried forward as ever.

Secondly, the uninterrupted revolution is necessary if socialist agriculture is to be consolidated and exhibit its superiority to the full.

The higher becomes the level of the political awakening of the working people, the firmer becomes the socialist system and the fuller its superiority is exhibited. Therefore, to raise the political level of the farmers is of prime importance if socialist agriculture is to be strengthened and exhibit fully its superiority. To this end, the revolution should be carried forward.

If the revolution is called off because socialist co-operation has been accomplished, the heightened enthusiasm of the peasantry, the fruit of the democratic and socialist revolutions, cannot be maintained or developed.

As is mentioned above, the uninterrupted revolution in the countryside is a law-governing process in developing the socialist agriculture.

Then, what are the principal contents of the revolution to be continued in the countryside?

In his "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Qustion in our Country" Comrade Kim Il Sung stated:

". . . In order to consolidate and develop the socialist system of agriculture, eliminate the distinctions between town and country, eliminate the class distinctions between the working class and the peasantry, first of all, the three revolutions—technical, cultural and ideological—must be carried out in the countryside on the basis of the rapid development of socialist industry and town; and in these three domains the backwardness of the countryside must be eliminated."

The technical, cultural and ideological revolutions will make it possible to elevate the technical and cultural standards and ideological levels of the peasants so as to remove the countrysides' lagging behind town, and to put an end to the material foundation which breeds the essential distinctions between town and country.

These three revolutions must be executed in a unified process as their tasks are closely interlinked.

The technical revolution creates favourable material conditions for other two revolutions. The cultural revolution is necessary for carrying out the other two revolutions. The technical revolution is a process of adopting achievements of modern science and up-to-date technique to production. Therefore, unless the cultural standards of the peasants rise, it would be impossible for them to learn modern techniques necessary for carrying out the technical revolution. Nor would it be possible for the peasantry to grasp Marxism-Leninism fully and have a communist world outlook.

However, it must be pointed out that technical growth and developing production depends mainly, in the final analysis, on the people's awakening. Only when the people possess communist consciousness, can they swiftly develop technique and raise the cultural standard. The ideological revolution, therefore, is a "must" if the technical and cultural revolutions are to be implemented. Hence, these three revolutions should be carried out in a unified process, with the ideological revolution preceding the other two.

While giving precedence to the ideological revolution we have promoted, in parallel with this, the technical and cultural revolutions in the countryside.

In this way, today our countryside has got rid of the century-long backwardness and has been turned into a civilized socialist one.

All the successes we have achieved in the rural work are the results of the uninterrupted and vigorous promotion of the revolution in the rural areas even after agricultural co-operation was completed.

However, these achievements are but the beginning in comparison with the vast tasks lay before the socialist countryside. Therefore, the country is now all the more energetically promoting the technical, cultural, and ideological revolutions in the countryside in a nation-wide movement.

Recalling the founding of the Korean People's Army

Major General KIM SOON IL

It is common in one's life that one encounters many events and that these events gradually die away from memory with the passage of time. But still fresh in my memory is the military parade staged on February 8, 1948, when the Korean People's Army, the first modern regular army of the people, was founded.

From early morning an air of festivity prevailed in Pyongyang and the square was packed with over 400,000 people.

We soldiers were lined up on the square. It was a rather chilly day, but I did not feel cold as I was greatly excited. We knew we are all sons and daughters of the workers and peasants who had been humiliated and maltreated in the past under Japanese colonial rule. All these thoughts plus what will take place on the square shortly filled my heart and I did not know how to express my feelings.

Until liberation I was literally a "slave" for the Japanese.

Korea's liberation on August 15, 1945, presented many tasks before the young people of the land.

I joined the people's armed forces to defend the Party and the government which brought genuine freedom and rights on the workers, peasants, and the entire people. At that time the Party, pushing ahead with the historic task of founding the democratic base in North Korea, made preparations for organizing a people's army in the light of the situation in which the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the ringleader of world reaction, occupied South Korea in place of the Japanese imperialists.

To bring up new military and political cadres of the worker and peasant origin, the Pyongyang Institute and the Central Academy for Security Workers appeared after liberation. Then training courses for security personnel were set up in various parts of the country.

Upon graduation from the Central Academy I had been appointed an officer in the Korean People's Army.

As the set time for the military parade approached, we almost became impatient.

Ten o'clock sharp. A storm of cheers shook the square. Our beloved leader Marshal Kim Il Sung mounted the platform.

"Long live General Kim Il Sung!" "Long live General Kim Il Sung!" Thunderous shouts went up.

I could feel my heart pounding faster as the sense of pride—I am a soldier of the Korean People's Army that the beloved leader has founded and is leading—overtook me more than ever.

Chief of the Staff General Kang Kun rode a chestnut horse to General Choi Yong Kun to report the review ready. Then there was a flare of trumpets signalling the commencement of the review. It added an indescribable solemnity to the scene. General Choi Yong Kun accompanied by General Kang Kun, reviewing the units, offered his congratulations on the founding of the Korean People's Army.

Then Marshal Kim Il Sung stood before the microphone. Another storm of cheers burst out.

"Officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Korean People's Army,

Dear fellow countrymen,

Celebrating the second anniversary of the founding of the North Korean People's Committee, the organ of genuine people's power, we today proclaim the founding of the Korean People's Army, the first people's armed forces in the history of Korea...

"With the great national pride and joy of the liberated people of Korea, I heartily celebrate the founding of the People's Army. Now all the people of the North and the South can take pride before the whole world in having their own modern, regular army to fight for the freedom and glory of their country."

Now the Korean people saw their long old wish come true.

The words of our beloved leader from the platform moved me to no end. I recalled the bitter days when the barbarous Japanese army violating our land and plundering and slaughtering our people at its will! In stirring emotion and excitement we hung on to every word he said.

Marshal Kim Il Sung went on to point out the purpose and historic significance of the founding of the Korean People's Army:

"The army we have founded today is a genuine people's army, organized with the sons and daughters of the Korean working people, including workers, peasants. It fights for the liberation and independence of the Korean people and for the happiness of the masses against the imperialist aggressive forces from abroad and the reactionary forces at home... Another specific feature is that our army has been organized with the true patriots of Korea as its backbone who devoted everything to the cause of liberating the country and the people in the anti-Japanese armed struggle in the face of severe Japanese imperialist suppression."

Hearing these words, I remember, I looked at the commander of our unit, a former guerrilla fighter, who was standing by me. How moved he was!

He had been an outstanding fighter, a member of the anti-Japanese partizans led by Marshal Kim Il Sung, who had fought for the restoration of the country; he was my superior whom I respected very much. He had told us about the 15 year-long difficult guerrilla fight that Premier Kim Il Sung and his men had fought for the country's independence and freedom.

The speech of Marshal Kim Il Sung was over and the military parade started.

The band struck up the march. Artillery, infantry, mechanized units, and tank units marched in fine array with colours flying. Passing the platform I looked up at the Marshal waving his hands smiling. When the units were out of the square confetti, bouquets, flower petals, coloured tapes showered over the soldiers.

Since then 17 years have passed. The Korean People's Army has gone through many trials and grown into an indomitable force under the seasoned leadership of the Party and Premier Kim Il Sung.

From the first day of its existence the Korean People's Army has stood face to face with the American occupation army on the 38th Parallel. U.S. imperialism and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique ceaselessly conducted military provocations. They wanted to undermine the gains of the people—land reform, nationalization of major industries and other democratic revolutions and the people's happiness.

The enemy had intruded into North Korea to loot and kidnap and kill the people, then they stormed the outposts of our army. But every time we punished them severely.

On June 25, 1950, the U.S. imperialists and their puppet clique launched a surprise attack on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

When the fate of the country was at stake the Korean people and men and officers of the People's Army rose up in the just Patriotic War of Liberation against the U.S. aggressors.

Launching the war, the U.S. aggressors had dreamed to conquer North Korea at one stroke and then the Continent.

The war was unprecedentedly harsh and barbaric. However, our People's Army displayed to the full heroism and noble traits as the army of the Party, the army of the working class, and the army for revolution, and defended freedom and independence of the country. Upholding the strategic line of Supreme Commander Marshal Kim Il Sung, our People's Army dealt one telling blow after another at

the enemy at every stage of war and won victory.

The indomitable fighting will and immortal exploits of the guerrillas that had fought heroically against Japanese imperialism in and around Mt. Baikdoo inspired the men and officers of the People's Army to the unmatched bravery and mass heroism.

Our soldiers at the front fought heroically for the Party and the government that had brought genuine freedom and happiness on their parents, brothers and sisters, and for their beloved country.

The U.S. imperialists laboured under the illusion that they could easily conquer the Korean people and the People's Army with their technical superiority. But our army smashed the enemy encountering their "technical superiority" with unity, heroism, bravery, and quick mobile operations.

The Korean People's Army frustrated the aggressive plans of Washington and its puppets, and scored a historic victory. The Korean People's Army was only two years old when the U.S. imperialists started the war in Korea. But the People's Army smashed the myth of "invincibility" of U.S. imperialism, and forcefully testified to the truth that the power of a revolutionary army fighting for the just cause is inexhaustible and that no technical superiority—however modern it may be—of the enemy ever can defeat the people and their army, when they are rallied firm around the Party and fight for victory of the revolution.

Our people and People's Army that crushed U.S. aggression made a big contribution to ensuring the security of the socialist camp and to preserving the world peace, and greatly encouraged the oppressed peoples of the world in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

During the post-war period, our army, which has been steeled and gained much experience in the severe war, has been equipped with modern military science and technique and has grown into an invincible cadre army.

Now the country is working under a national defence system with the People's Army as its core, and the whole country has been made an impregnable fortress.

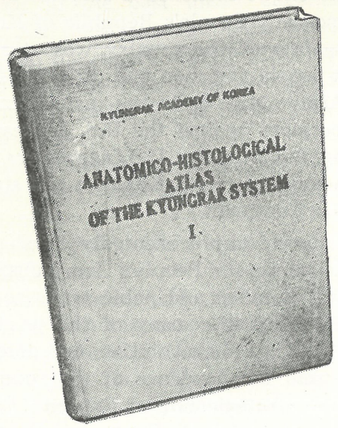
The Korean People's Army is invincible. No matter how hard the enemy may try, he can never break through the impregnable defence line of our army, nor can it block the Korean people who are forging ahead toward the bright morrow.

If the U.S. imperialist aggressors dare launch a new war in Korea, only an ignominious defeat will wait for them.

New Books

ANATOMICO-HISTOLOGICAL ATLAS OF THE KYUNGRAK SYSTEM

VOL.I



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The Morning Stars On the Height

JUN EUN SIK

The Patriotic War of Liberation (1950-1953) produced many heroic stories of the men and officers of the Korean People's Army who fought against the armed aggressors of the U.S. Below is a story of a People's Army squad.

It was early in May, 1951.

Fierce battles continued for days on the Maibong Mountains, and the Choi Tai Oong squad was defending a small rocky ridge, a strategically important position. The enemy concentrated fire on the ridge day and night—they shelled, they bombed, they threw napalm bombs. Every day the enemy made stubborn attempts to climb up the ridge, their repeated assaults powdering rocks and burning all trees and plants. However, the heroic fighters of the People's Army did not budge, not even a step. And the whole ridge was strewn with the enemy dead.

May 8—the Choi Tai Oong squad has been assigned to defend the ridge four days before. The sun was still high in the sky, but his men had just repulsed another enemy attack—the eighth for the day. In this battle, however, heavy machinegunner Ri Choong Rim died a heroic death.

Now there were only three men left, squad leader Choi Tai Oong and two men, Kim Soon Kyo and severely wounded Hong Chang Eui. They had to hold the heights for three days until there would be fresh reinforcements.

Though There Are Only Three of Us . . .

But the squad was ordered to relieve the 3rd company encircled by the enemy not far from their position. Of course, they were to keep their ridge as well.

But how could they? Three were all there was, and one was wounded severely, too. Yet, they must carry out the order—their buddies were encircled by the enemy, and the situation was very critical.

" . . . Report to Headquarters: though there are only three of us, we'll defend the ridge to the last and relieve the 3rd company." Thus the squad leader bid the orderly.

To relieve the 3rd company, naturally they had to proceed to the besieged position.

"Soon Kyo, you stay here and keep the ridge. I'll be right back." With these words, Tai Oong began to move as he realized there was no time to be lost.

With the cartridge-belts around his waist and shoulders, he began to move on his belly holding the machinegun in his hand. (The heavy machinegun that he was carrying was the only one on the heights.) He was determined to take the enemy crossways in case they should try to climb up the ridge again, and hit at the enemy force enveloping the 3rd company.

Soon he found our 3rd company was in a complete enemy encirclement, open to the enemy guns in all directions.

At that time, Choi Tai Oong spotted the enemy, he figured about one company, crawl-

ing up the heights. Now the situation was dangerous again.

Tai Oong gave a quick survey of the situation, then his gun opened up. First, it got the enemy men attacking the 3rd company from behind, then those charging up the heights. Many of the enemy fell. The remaining ones chose to lie flat on the ground and did not move. Tai Oong found a better place for his gun and shot every one that dared to move.

In the meantime the 3rd company at last broke through the enemy's encirclement. Now Tai Oong turned his gun to the enemy that kept coming up. They were crawling inch by inch. Now some were shooting at Tai Oong.

Such being the situation, Tai Oong thought he must beat the enemy to his ridge. But the enemy hit Tai Oong in the forehead and a leg. Yet, he refused to fall down as he knew how serious the situation was.

On the heights Soon Kyo and Hong Chang Eui were firing, too. Tai Oong tore off his underwear and bandaged his wounded leg, then he crawled up the heights, continuously firing at the enemy.

When he managed to return to the ridge, he found the enemy inching their way towards the trench. Now they were 70 metres away.... then 50 metres. Suddenly Tai Oong's machine-gun rattled, mowing down the enemy men.

That day, too, our fighters successfully defended the height.

Night at the Front

Darkness fell at the front, and the bright moon was out. Stillness reigned over the mountain only to be broken now and then by the roarings of the guns in the distance.

Tai Oong was in the trench with his eyes fixed at the front. But Soon Kyo was not to be seen. Tai Oong began to look for him. (Hong Chang Eui who was wounded had been sent to the rear.) Soon he located Soon Kyo, who was chewing moist tree roots, with his chest put to the fresh soil dug up. Tai Oong knew right away what Soon Kyo was doing.

They had had not a drop of water for five days already. From thirst their lips were burning as if their insides were on fire.

Only those people who have experienced such a thirst would know thirst is no less painful than hunger, sometimes more.

Was there no water on the height? Yes, there was some. Tai Oong dug out the earth and picked out a heavy machinegun magazine.

It was full of water. Offering it to Soon Kyo Tai Oong said: "Take it! It'll be alright if we can hold on until tomorrow. We have enough water to last several days."

For sometime Soon Kyo in silence kept looking at the water, then shook his head.

"No! We'd better save it. If reinforcements do not come tomorrow, it means we'll have to be on our own . . . until they come."

The water was for cooling off the machine-gun. In the end, they did not touch it as they knew that they wanted only one thing—sweeping away the Yankee aggressors from this land and victory in the war. Eventually Soon Kyo spoke out:

"You know, squad leader, there is a clear, cool spring water in my village. It is a really beautiful village."

Soon Kyo hailed from Kyungsang Province, South Korea. He lost his parents in his childhood and became a boy servant. Only on the day when his native village was liberated by the People's Army, could he say "no more" to his bitter life. Yes, he loved his village very much. He always said:

"When I return to my home after victory, I would brush away the evil landlords and make the farmers there lead a happy life like in the northern part of the country." Such were his hopes and ambition.

On the heights, forgetting the intense thirst, Tai Oong and Soon Kyo talked until the moon disappeared. They talked how to rebuild their native places into bountiful and beautiful ones. They wanted to build a new life after victory. Overlooking the dark valley, they said:

"You scoundrels, come up if you dare! We'll rip you up before we'll let you take this ridge!"

To the Last!

Early morning on May 10. Over twenty enemy planes appeared over the heights dumping bombs and strafing. Soon the whole place was wrapt in angry flames.

It was another trying day. The heroic men repulsed the on-coming enemy seven times. Now there were only some 500 bullets and 20 hand-grenades left.

Sure enough, the enemy started another try. Human waves began to roll toward the crest.

A decisive battle was approaching. (On the heights were also wounded men who had been on their way to the rear from other units.) Tai Oong produced a national flag from his breast, tied it to a stick, and flew it on the heights.

"Don't let this flag trampled under foot by the enemy. We'll defend the heights to the end!"

Tai Oong began to sing:

"Prints of blood on every range o' Jangbaik,
Marks of crimson in every stream o' Amrok . . . "

Soon everyone joined in the singing—the whole mountain rang with their song.

"Men! When bullets run out, we'll stone the enemy, and use our bayonets . . . "

Tai Oong, Soon Kyo and even the wounded soldiers came out of the trench and gathered stones.

The enemy came. They were only 40 metres away, when our heavy machinegun began to spit fire. But it ceased before long. No more bullets. Then they threw hand-grenades. Soon they were all gone, too. This time, they rolled down rocks. However, there were more enemy coming up. With beyonets in their hands, Tai Oong and Soon Kyo rushed into the enemy. Tai Oong pierced the heart of the first enemy soldier, then the second one. He let his bayonet go through the third and the fourth enemy. But he did not and could not see an enemy pressing on him from behind. Only Soon Kyo saw him in time and knocked him down.

Like angry tigers, our men fell the enemy soldiers at a close range. Suddenly bullets were poured in a deadly volley from the heights. Reinforcements had arrived!

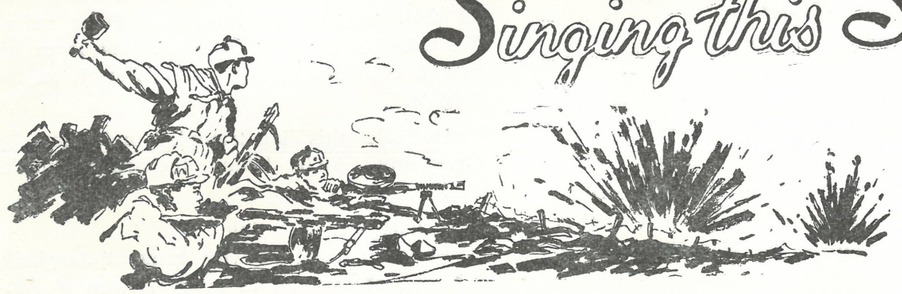
Our unit, shouting "Hurrah!" went over to a countercharge.

This time, too, the enemy soldiers ran in all directions stepping over their dead.

In the seven days of the fierce fighting squad leader Choi Tai Oong and his men thus displayed matchless heroism and defended the height.

In recognition of his immortal exploits, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea awarded him the Hero of the Republic.

Singing this Song



POWERFUL verses and militant words of the poets always inspire the people to the battle to crush the enemy.

In the war time there were many verses and songs, which our men loved to sing, the songs that inspired them to dealing crushing blows to the enemy. Then in the postwar socialist construction period there also emerged many songs that the working class loved to sing building a firm national economy at the speed of Chullima.

Here is a song which our soldiers loved to sing in the days of the Patriotic War of Liberation.

For a Decisive Battle

On the hill yonder in the battle
Many of our men fell.
To take revenge upon the enemy for them,
Move on, men! To annihilate the enemy.

Refrain:
Hear our battle-cry!
To ravage the enemy's fortress,
To silence the enemy guns
Move on, men! To annihilate the enemy.

He blocked the enemy gun with his body.
His death shall not be in vain.
Orders are given. Through the shower of bullets
Move on, men! To annihilate the enemy.

The path to victory won at the price of blood
Leads to the native village.
Renewing our oaths to the Leader,
Our men march to crush the enemy.

These verses were written by Suk Kwang Heui in July 1951. The following is his reminiscences.

Korea was in the height of the war. The entire nation was fighting to drive out the U.S. invaders.

Fifteen years have passed since the song "For a Decisive Battle" was written.

It was one day in early May in 1951. My car was approaching Pyongyang, I had been to the front. Many things appeared before my eyes—guns and cannons ceaselessly shaking the earth, the soldiers storming in the rains of bullets, the burning eyes, the bayonets, the piercing battle-cries . . . . Then there was Hero Kim Chang Gul who had blocked the enemy gun muzzle with his body to ensure his unit a passage. To take revenge for the hero his men dashed forward and annihilated the enemy.

I wanted to write about the mass heroism displayed by the men and officers in the crucial war and the lofty inner world of our men ready to devote their all for the country at the call of the Leader... Gradually I began to formulate my thoughts for the "For A Decisive Battle" that was to come.

One by one words came to me.

"A hill turned into a scene of desperate battle."

"A fighter who covered the enemy gun muzzle with his body."

"The cry of our men—'Revenge for him'"

"Battle-cry"...

And one day in Pyongyang I happened to see long columns of our men leave for the front. The high spirited soldiers marched past, singing "the Song of General Kim Il Sung."

Then a new thought flashed on me.

"Each of them must have made his pledge to the Leader in his mind. To carry out the pledge they would advance southward, sweeping away the enemy, to the southernmost of the land."

I felt a strong urge to commit my thoughts to paper. Soon I found myself in my study, and many lines and stanzas were written and then crossed out. It lasted till dawn. At last I had it.

Though 15 years have elapsed since then, the country still remains divided. This national misfortune comes from the Yankees who occupy South Korea.

The whole nation are struggling to unify the country, and this powerful advance will drive out the Yankees from South Korea and unify the country without fail.

A MERCENARY ARMY

THE South Korean army—700,000 strong—is a mercenary army of the United States, a pillar of U.S. colonial rule, and a U.S. tool for suppressing brutally the struggle of the South Korean people for freedom, liberation, and the country's unification. Washington has sent South Korean troops even to South Vietnam to fight the dirty U.S. war against the people of Vietnam.

The U.S. imperialists, from the first day of their occupation of South Korea, worked madly to set up the puppet army, and have done everything since then to reinforce it.

The American Military Government in Seoul had set up the "national defence command" and "national defence guards" stuffed with traitors to the land—former pet agents of the Japanese and Chiang Kai-shek armies.

In 1948, U.S. imperialism reorganized the "national defence guards" into a regular army and placed it under U.S. command, and the South Korean army has been reinforced steadily.

Washington forced the South Korean regime to accept a series of aggressive treaties and agreements, such as, "Seoul-Washington mutual defence pact," "military assistance agreement," "military advisory groups agreement," etc.

Today the supreme commander of the South Korean army is the commander of the U.S. Eighth Army who is also known as the head of "U.N. Forces" in South Korea. Then there are some three thousand U.S. military advisers attached to the South Korean army, from the "ministry of defence" down to the army training camps. And the Washington rulers make no secret that the South Korean army is an auxiliary to the U.S. armed forces and they can use it in any way they see fit. In reality, the South Korean army is controlled by the U.S. in all phases: mobilization, operation, and personnel affairs.

The U.S. used South Korean troops to suppress uprisings in Island Chejoo, October 1946 uprisings, Ryusoo and Soonchun army revolts. Mass slaughter was committed everywhere. In the end, Washington started the war in Korea in June 1950. Lately the U.S. government has sent out the South Korean puppet army to stop the youth, students and people of South Korea who are fighting against the "Japan-South Korea treaty and agreements" and for dignity and honour of the nation.

That the South Korean puppet army is a U.S. mercenary army is proved all the more by the fact that it has been dragged into the shameful war of U.S. aggression in Vietnam. It may be added that the South Korean troops have suffered a big casualty in South Vietnam. Now the U.S. imperialists are working like mad to have more South Korean men sent to South Vietnam. They have equipped the South Korean troops with "Hawk" and "Nike" missiles and other new type weapons.

America's puppet army in South Korea costs Wall Street the least among all its colonial troops.

In the Korean war Washington acquired immense profits at the price of 667,000 of the South Korean puppet troops killed.

According to U.S. General Van Fleet, the upkeep of one divison of the South Korean army would cost less than one-twenty-fifth of that of one division of the U.S. army.

The South Korean soldiers are humiliated and insulted by the U.S. imperialists.

It is an everyday occurrence that non-commissioned officers of the American occupation army, as military advisers, put South Korean army officers on the carpet, sometimes even beat them. Puppet soldiers are made the live targets by the Yankees in their shooting practice. Then in South Vietnam six South Korean soldiers were shot to death by an American officer because they refused to carry out the Yankee's order.

But, today, in South Korea anti-American sentiments are rising, and the voice for self-reliance and self-sufficiency is getting louder.

Such sentiments are mounting even among the men and officers of the South Korean army, who refuse to stomach any more insult and interference by the Yankee soldier boys in South Korea.

In this connection, the Japanese daily *Yomiuri* wrote: "The spirit of anti-Americanism is rising among young officers of the South Korean army. They are demanding democracy." Then men are against the South Korean army officers who lick the boots of the U.S. army. Sometimes such officers are shot.

There are more desertions. Even according to the minimized figure released by the Pak Jung Hi clique, the number of deserters in 1963 was twice as big as in 1962. Altogether there have been about 30,000 cases of desertion since the military coup.

South Korean troops attached to U.S. army units are waging hunger strikes and demonstrations against the Yankees.

Some one hundred South Korean army men in the U.S. first army corps waged a hunger strike demanding that the U.S. occupation army must stop humiliating and insulting South Korean soldiers. In the end, the South Korean soldiers ran away. There was a case in Kyunggi Province of an enraged South Korean soldier shooting three arrogant American soldiers.

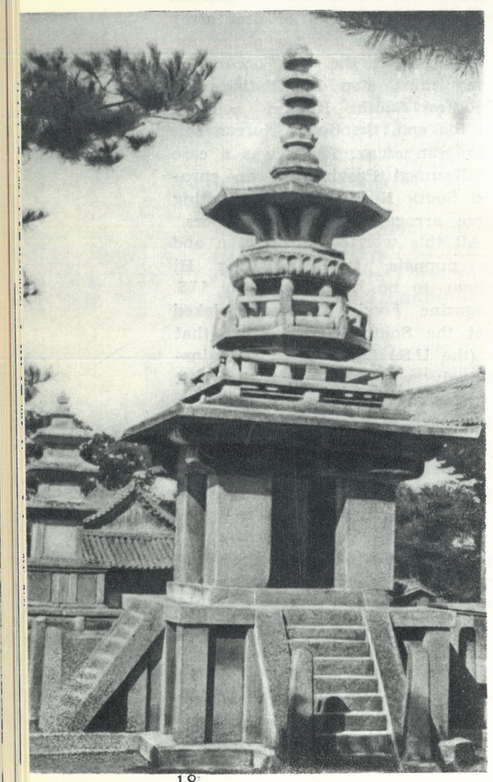
All this worries Washington and its puppets, the Pak Jung Hi clique, to no limit. Even the U.S. magazine *Foreign Affairs* shrieked that the South Korean army that it (the U.S.) had trained so painstakingly was biting the hand it was feeding.

The South Korean puppet army must be an army for freeing the people from oppression and humiliation, rejecting outside forces, and safeguarding the national independence and the people's welfare. To do this, they must become their own master, they should reject U.S. commandership, they should drive out the American military advisers and the U.S. aggressive army from South Korea, and smash the Pak Jung Hi clique. Only then can the South Korean army get rid of enslavement and humiliation.

Feudal States of Korea

RIM KWANG CHUL

AROUND the 1st century there appeared in Korea a few feudal states — Kogooryu, Paikche and Silla — after the disintegration of Ancient Korea, one of the first known states in Korea, which had covered the areas of the Korean peninsula and part of northeast China.



A stone pagoda built in the 8th century in the Silla period

Kogooryu, the first to appear, was located in the northern part of the Korean peninsula and part of northeast China. It has been established that from the early days the inhabitants of Kogooryu practised farming and stock-breeding. In 108 B.C. the Han dynasty of China began to invade Korea, and there ensued a long war. Some 25 years later Kogooryu abolished all of Han's counties except one—Rakrang county in the western part.

Through the war the people of Kogooryu were tempered, and the state developed into a powerful political force having amalgamated various tribes in its neighbourhood. By the 1st century B.C. it was a powerful kingdom with its centre in the middle reaches of the Amrok River.

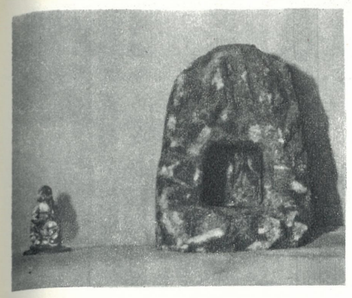
As to the state system of Kogooryu, all the state power including the army was in the hands of the king. Its territory was divided into five administrative districts, which were ruled by the nobles. Early Kogooryu history reveals the existence of a slave system to some extent in addition to feudal socio-economic relations. It also suggests some traces of the primitive communal society. The successive wars resulted in the strengthening of the feudal system, and more rigid feudal relations were enforced upon the tribes Kogooryu had brought under its control. In this way the feudal relations held sway over Kogooryu's social and economic life.

And the following centuries saw a rapid advance. At the beginning of the 4th century A.D. Kogooryu completely drove out the foreign invaders, and its territory expanded to cover a vast area extending from the northern part of the Korean peninsula to part of northeast China. Particularly, towards the end of the century Kogooryu began to move southward to occupy the fertile plain areas in the Daidong and Han River basins. In the year of 427 it made Pyongyang its capital, building it into a large city. Kogooryu flourished with its thriving agriculture.

Many ruins and relics of Kogooryu have been unearthed in and around Pyongyang. These excavated historical relics and tombs testify to the highly developed architectural art and painting and sculpture of the Kogooryu people and their brave and indomitable spirit. In this respect, special mention must be made of the mural paintings found in Old Tomb No. 3 in Anak untombed in 1949. The paintings show that Kogooryu also had developed agriculture, stock-breeding, weaving, dyeing; then it made weapons and used musical instruments.

According to historical records, the culture of Kogooryu exerted much influence on the neighbouring countries, particularly on Japan.

The Sui dynasty which had unified China in the late 6th century, launched aggressive wars several times in its attempt to conquer Kogoorvu. In 598 it sent an expeditionary army of 300,000 to attack Kogooryu, but only to be repulsed by the people of Kogooryu.



The grotto where a Buddhist image of the Kogooryu period (1st century B.C-A.D. 7th century) was placed

Again in 612, Sui dispatched a large army of 1,130,000 men to invade Kogooryu. Two million were involved in the job of transport. However, Kogooryu under the command of its outstanding General Eulji Moonduk put up a heroic fight and crushed the invasion army thoroughly. Despite the repeated setbacks Sui was far from giving up its aggressive schemes until it fell in 618, when a new dynasty Tang came into being. Emperor Tai Tsung of Tang also made several attempts on Kogooryu.

About a century after the Kogooryu dynasty had been founded, in today's central part of Korea, south to the Han River, a new kingdom—Paikche—appeared.

A Korean legend has it that King On Jo, the founder of Paikche, was a son of King Joo Mong, the founder of Kogooryu, and On Jo travelled southward to set up a new kingdom.

Numerous historical findings unearthed in recent years in the Han River basin show remarkable similarities to the things the people of Kogooryu had used. Therefore, it is only reasonable to assume that one of the tribes had travelled southward from Kogooryu and intermingled with the Han tribes of the region to form eventually a new political force.

Together with Kogooryu, Paikche also made ceaseless efforts to repulse the foreign invaders still left in the northwestern part of Korea. Meanwhile she rapidly developed into a powerful state by annexing several tribes of Jinkook to the south.

Of the ruling apparatus, Paikche, from the beginning, had a centralized administrative body consisting of five ministries, while its territory was divided into several districts which were ruled by the nobles appointed by the king.

Like in the case of Kogooryu, in Paikche, too, there had been traces of primitive communal and slave systems. However, feudal relations gradually became dominant. In its dealings with the annexed tribes, Paikche made rulers of those tribes its nobles so as to make the peasants who had been under the former rulers pay their taxes and tributes directly to the king. In this way, feudalism with all its trimmings began to take deep root.

By the 3rd century Paikche put almost the entire southwestern part of the Korean peninsula under its control and its agriculture flourished rapidly thanks to the fertile soil.

The historical finds unearthed around Kongjoo and Pooyu, both once capital of Paikche, show the highly, developed handicraft of the era. Its weapons were of fine make, which, records state, were exported to Japan in large quantities. Moreover, ancient records of Japan reveal the immigration of many handicraftsmen, architects, painters and musicians from Paikche to the island country to play an important role in the cultural development in early Japan.

Following the appearance of Kogooryu in the north and Paikche in the west, another feudal dynasty Silla came into being in the first half of the 2nd century with present Kyungjoo as its centre in the southeastern part of Korean peninsula—an area of Jinkook, where farming had advanced. Silla was comparatively less harassed by alien invaders than Kogooryu and Paikche had—a fact conducive to continued progress.

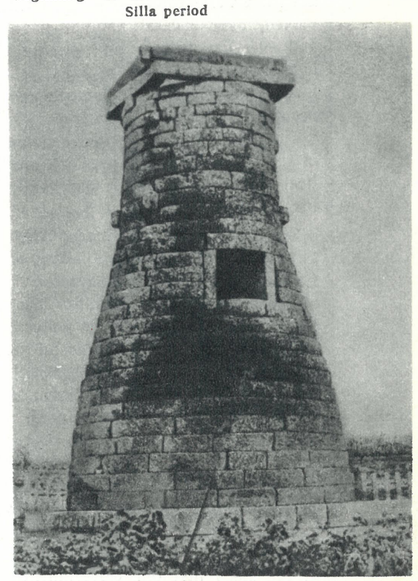
In the early days the ruling system of Silla was of democratic character; the country was ruled by three royal families, namely, Pak, Suk, and Kim which succeeded the throne by turns. And the king was, as a principle, to be elected on the unanimity of the meeting of nobles.

Silla subjugated different tribes in neighbouring areas and made the inhabitants of these areas serfs. Then they brought the land formerly owned by the local lords under their control and intensified exploitation. Silla also won some of the feudal forces in its neighbouring areas over to their side and kept the residents of these areas under the direct control of the court of Silla and subjected them to feudal exploitation. In this way, by the close of the 4th century, Silla included most part of the southeastern areas of the Korean peninsula and gradually turned into a powerful centralized feudal state.

In this period agriculture in

(Continued on page 23)

The Chumsung Observatory, an astronomical observatory built at the beginning of the 7th century in the Silla period



We Maintain...

Korea's Unification

LI MAN KYOO

Member of the Committee for the Peaceful Unification of the Fatherland

THE country's unification—this is what the entire Korean people wish and are fighting for. Unification is the most urgent question for the nation.

Korea's division has caused a grave consequence on the economic life of South Korean society and brought unspeakable misfortune on the life of the people.

Washington from the first day of its occupation of South Korea has resorted to every conceivable scheme to turn South Korea into a bridgehead of aggression in Asia. The U.S. imperialists are dominating South Korea in all fields, political, economic, military, and cultural; to all intents and purposes, they are running South Korea.

Today, in South Korea freedom and all political rights are denied to the people, the economy has been on the verge of collapse, and the decadent Yankeeism prostitutes the national culture and noble customs and habits of our nation. South Korea is flooded with millions of unemployed, over 300,000 families have nothing to live on, and everyday hunger and disease take a heavy toll of human lives.

All this bespeaks the lamentable consequences of U.S. occupation of South Korea.

The South Korean people groaning under the tyranny of the U.S.-Pak Jung Hi clique are fighting for the unification of the country. "Only unification is the road to life!" This is their cry.

Our Government has made every sincere effort to put an end to the split of the nation and accelerate the unification of the country. It has been the consistent position of the government that unification should be brought by the Korean people allowing no outside interference on a democratic basis and by peaceful means. It has time and again proposed a series of realistic measures for lightening the misfortunes of the Korean people even before the country is unified. Proposals were made for North-South contact and for removing the obstacles lying in the way of unification. The North-South Confederation, economic and cultural intercourse, travel between the two parts of the country, postal service, and reduction in the numerical strength of the North and South Korean armies, the conclusion of a peace agreement—all these are some of the steps that our Government has proposed.

The Government also offered to relieve the sufferings of our brothers and sisters in South Korea. At the Third Session of the Third Supreme People's Assembly, our Government proposed to send South Korea annually 2,000,000 suk of rice (1 suk equals 150 kg.), 100,000 tons of structural steel, 1,000 million kwh of electricity, 10,000 tons of chemical fibre, and other goods. Then it stated it was ready to receive the South Korean unemployed.

However, all these reasonable and concrete proposals have not been accepted; unification has not yet been attained though the country has suffered twenty years of split and it is what the Korean people wish most.

Korea's unification has not come about because of U.S. policy of divide-and-rule and the Pak Jung Hi clique, a band of traitors, who in league with them, are selling out the interests of the nation.

Why are the U.S. imperialists dead set against Korea's unification?

The answer is this: unification of Korea by the Korean people themselves would mean the total bankruptcy of U.S. policy of divide-and-rule; U.S. is to be driven out of South Korea; U.S. is to lose an important base for aggression in Asia.

This is why the U.S. imperialists, in an attempt to check the advance of the South Korean people towards unification, have changed their South Korean stooges on four occasions, while further raising the "anti-Communism" hullabaloo, intensifying bloody suppression of the people, and rushing with war preparations. The U.S. imperialists are desperate more than ever: They are bringing into South Korea Japanese militarism which they have long revived as the shock-brigade for U.S. aggression on Asia, creating a new obstacle in the way of Korea's unification and hoping to bolster their crumbling colonial rule.

But today the political and economic crisis in South Korea is going from bad to worse, and U.S. colonial rule is being shaken to its very foundations.

The more desperate they become, the more fierce becomes the anti-U.S., national-salvation struggle of the South Korean people who have been encouraged by the

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HOSPITALITY AND SYMPATHY

TILAK RAJ SHAHI
Member of National Panchayat, Nepal

AS we had heard, Korea is really a lovely country. Its countless mountains and beautiful rivers present a picturesque scenery everywhere. And the people, under the leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung and rallied firmly around the Workers' Party of Korea, are building a socialist society.

In a short span of twenty years the Korean people have rebuilt their country, once a backward agrarian country, beyond recognition, and they had to go through the most destructive war. They have succeeded in making the country highly industrialized and in raising the people's living standard.

We visited the Nimangjiri co-op farm situated in a mountainous area. We found that every co-op farm family lives in a cozy, comfortable house, well provided with modern conveniences. The co-op has a membership of only 1,300, yet it has its own theatre, not to speak of a number of day nurseries. There are middle and high technical schools in the village. Of course, all houses have electric lights. Thus, we found little gap in the living standard between town and the country.

We visited several small plants. The Bookchung Aluminium Factory was one of them. Then we saw big factories like the Vinyl-Chloride Factory, Heungnam Fertilizer Factory, and Ryongsung Machine-building Factory in Hamheung. We talked with the people there. Everywhere, we were told they were surpassing the targets assigned to them.

We found Korean people very hospitable. The Party and the Government and the people sympathize with the cause of all people who are struggling against colonialism and imperialism and for national liberation.

We rejoice over the great achievements made by the Korean people and also feel proud of them.

We Salute the Nepalese People

HYECHO, a scholar and monk, was the first Korean to visit Nepal. Already in the eighth century he had written about life and culture of the Nepalese people.

Regrettable as it was, however, relations between the two countries did not develop further. It was only after Korea and Nepal won independence that their friendly intercourse resumed.

Now many delegations covered the distance between Pyongyang and Katmandu, and mutual understanding has been deepened.

The Korean people rejoice over the successes scored by the Nepalese people in consolidating the political independence and building the national economy. The Nepalese people have fulfilled the five-year and three-year plans started in 1956 and 1962. Today Nepal having got rid of the colonial backwardness—the aftermath of British rule—is going forward as a new independent country of Asia.

The Nepalese people have given resolute support to the Korean people who are struggling for the withdrawal of U.S. imperialism from South Korea and the country's unification without alien intervention. The Korean people regard the Nepalese people's support as an example of international solidarity—the Nepalese people who had suffered long under the iron rule of the colonialists and won independence after an undaunted struggle.

The friendship and co-operation between the two countries not only will promote the interests of the two peoples but also will expedite the day of victory in our joint struggle. The bonds of friendship between Korea and Nepal formed in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism are being strengthened day by day.

On the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the National Day of Nepal, the Korean people extend best wishes. We wish the Nepalese people greater successes in their struggle for safeguarding national independence and building up their economy.

Li Ki Yung in his study

WRITER Li Ki Yung

Li Ki Yung, a veteran writer of Korea, has been devoting himself to writing for some forty years since 1924 when his maiden work "Brother's Secret Letter" appeared.

He has over hundred works to his credit—including the monumental novels, "The Native Place," "Spring," "The Land," and "The Dooman River."

Li Ki Yung, one of the nation's men of pen with the longest career, has done much for the pioneering of proletarian literature and development of socialist realist literature in the land.

He was born on May 29, 1895, into a poor peasant family in a remote village in Asan County, South Choongchung Province. His family was so poverty-stricken that it was not until he was 12 when he entered the primary school. From his childhood, he avariciously read, particularly the classics; a factor, perhaps, in later years made him turn to the world of letters.

The youthful days of Li Ki Yung witnessed the suffocating, tragic reality of Korea after Japanese occupation, and it instilled into the heart of this young literary hopeful a spirit of resentment and resistance to the society. And he began to look beyond the fence of the countryside groaning under the feudal fetters and social contradictions. Aspiring after justice and with big dreams he left home to start a wandering life—this lasted five years, which took him to every part of the country. He lived with the people who were at the bottom ladder of the society, and shared their feelings and thoughts. During these years he did any kind of work that came to his way. And he observed at the close range the sufferings of the people and social contradictions. Greatly stirred, he felt an irrepressible urge to write about them.

All this—he came from among the people and experienced the feelings of the people—made him a people's writer and realist writer from the very beginning of his career. Ever since, for the past forty odd years he has drawn his pen for the goodness of the country and people, and the Party and revolution. Every work of this proletarian writer is the people's struggle itself.

When he made his appearance in the literary world, the emerging proletarian literature was just budding in Korea with such writers as Jo Myung Hi, Choi Su Hai, and Song Yung. Li Ki Yung soon joined the ranks of the proletarian writers. The period was a very fruitful one for him: his well-known short stories, "The Poor Folk" (1925), "A Village" (1925), and "Peasant Jung Do Ryung" (1926) appeared. In these works, he, from his own experience and with his ears to the ground to hear the voices of the poverty-stricken and the down-trodden, exposed most bitingly the social injustice.

From the early days of his career his writing exposed the capitalist society, a den of fiend of fiends, advocating revolutionary ideals.

Li Ki Yung was one of the organizers of the KAP (Korean Association of Proletarian Literature and Art) before liberation. And he strove for the development of the proletarian literature. Short stories "Wonbo" (1928) and "The Paper Factory Village" (1930), and the novel "The Native Place" (1933) were some of his works published during this period—works that did so much for the appearance and advancement of socialist realism in our country.

As is the case with all his writings, the novel "The Native Place," too, came from his personal experience.

He had spent his youth in his native village and saw with his own eyes the life of the peasants. He lived and breathed together with them. And his first novel depicted vividly hopes, joy and tears, and struggle of the peasant population.

In "The Native Place" the author, from the socialist stand point, gave a moving picture of the struggle of the peasants against Japanese imperialism and its stooges—landlords. And the book takes an important place in the history of the modern Korean literature with its ideological content, truthfulness, high artistry, and national character.

Speaking of Li Ki Yung's "The Native Place," one must not forget to mention that the writer had spent a very brief time on it. About this the writer says in his reminiscences that what he depicted in the novel came from his experience, his clear understanding of life, and that he had spent a long time in projecting the characters and episodes. And when the actual writing took place, he was among the people, the heroes of the book.

He was arrested by the Japanese police right after he finished the novel. So, he did not even have a chance to read over the manuscript before it went to press. Around the 40's Japanese fascist terror rule became all the more ferocious, and the barbarous suppression of progressive writers became intensified. And Li Ki Yung went into a village hidden deep in the mountains in Keumgang County, Kangwon Province, where he greeted the country's liberation on August 15, 1945.

The 20 years of his creative life before liberation had been indeed a thorny road of struggle, a path of glorious struggle blazing socialist realism.

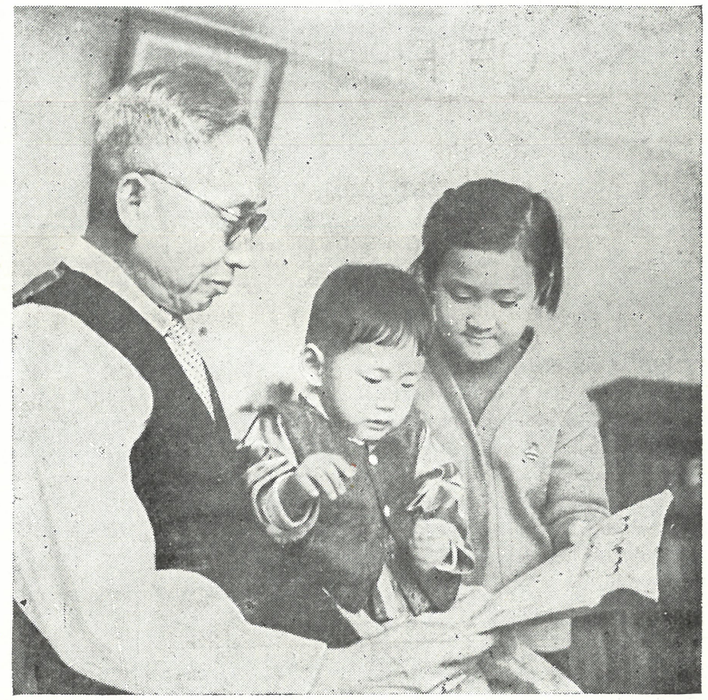
After liberation Li Ki Yung assumed very responsible posts: he is a member of the World Peace Council, Vice-Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of D.P.R.K., member of the standing committee of the Central Committee of the Korean Writers' Union, and Chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Association. Yet, in the post-liberation era, he produced "Kaibyuk" (The Creation) (1946), "The Land" in two parts and other works in which he described the spiritual and moral features of man of the new type under the new social system, the socialist system.

Now the writer is working on the third and last volumes of the trilogies "The Dooman River" and "The Land."

These novels, against the background of the past 60 years are presenting the heroic struggles of our people in each historical stage of the national-liberation struggle. He has completed parts 1 and 2 of "The Land," and parts 1 and 2 and the first section of part 3 of "The Dooman River."

Li Ki Yung is over seventy but his pen is young as ever. His creation is vigorous and fresh and speaks for the ideals of the times because he is a writer who lives and breathes with the peasants.

With his grandchildren



(Continued from page 19)

Silla made a remarkable advance thanks to the use of iron-made farm implements and cattle. They also built irrigation and water conservancy projects. Reservoirs, dykes, and highways were built and repaired. With the developing agriculture, handicrafts flourished, and culture also made rapid progress.

Although Silla was preceded by Kogooryu and Paikche as far as its historical appearance is concerned, it was able to develop its economy and culture in rather peaceful circumstances. Eventually, Silla having conquered Paikche and the southern part of Kogooryu in the mid-7th century, developed into a more powerful feudal state.

Senor and Senora Gonzalo Rojas

KOREA, A STAR OF FREEDOM

GONZALO ROJAS

Professor, Conception University
(Chile)

THIS is my first visit to Korea, but Korea has been always in my thoughts—a country which has gone through much, a great, sound socialist country in all aspects.

Korea under the leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung is a motherland to all poets who are looking for the future.

I am a poet of Chile, and, at the same time, a poet of Latin America. I have come to Korea to understand her, for it was here that a new people were born and for it was here that imperialism was made to breathe its last.

The Daidong River through the window reminds me of the rivers in my homeland—the rivers that I have lived with. The gentle Daidong River whispered to me: "I have seen many events here." Rivers are always the true witness of history.

The River told me that neither hundreds of millions of bullets nor savage bombings can break the volition of the men, women, and children firmly determined to defend their motherland.

I have seen the most beautiful city Pyongyang with its Chullima Statue. I have never seen such a statue that so vividly symbolizes the might and spirit of a people as it does. Also I have seen the enthusiastic life and labour of the Korean people. I was deeply impressed when I visited the two museums—the Museum of the Korean Revolution, and the Memorial of the Patriotic War of Liberation. I also visited factories, Kim Il Sung University, Industrial-Agricultural Exhibition, the Children's Palace, and some theatres and cinema houses.

Never shall I forget what I have witnessed and learned during my stay of eight days in Korea.

Struggle and great cause are awaiting us. We are leaving you with the Star of Freedom of Korea in our hearts—the Star of Freedom which we have seen with our own eyes. We are going home with our hearts impressed with your freedom and construction.

(Continued from page 20)

just proposals made by our Government for the country's unification.

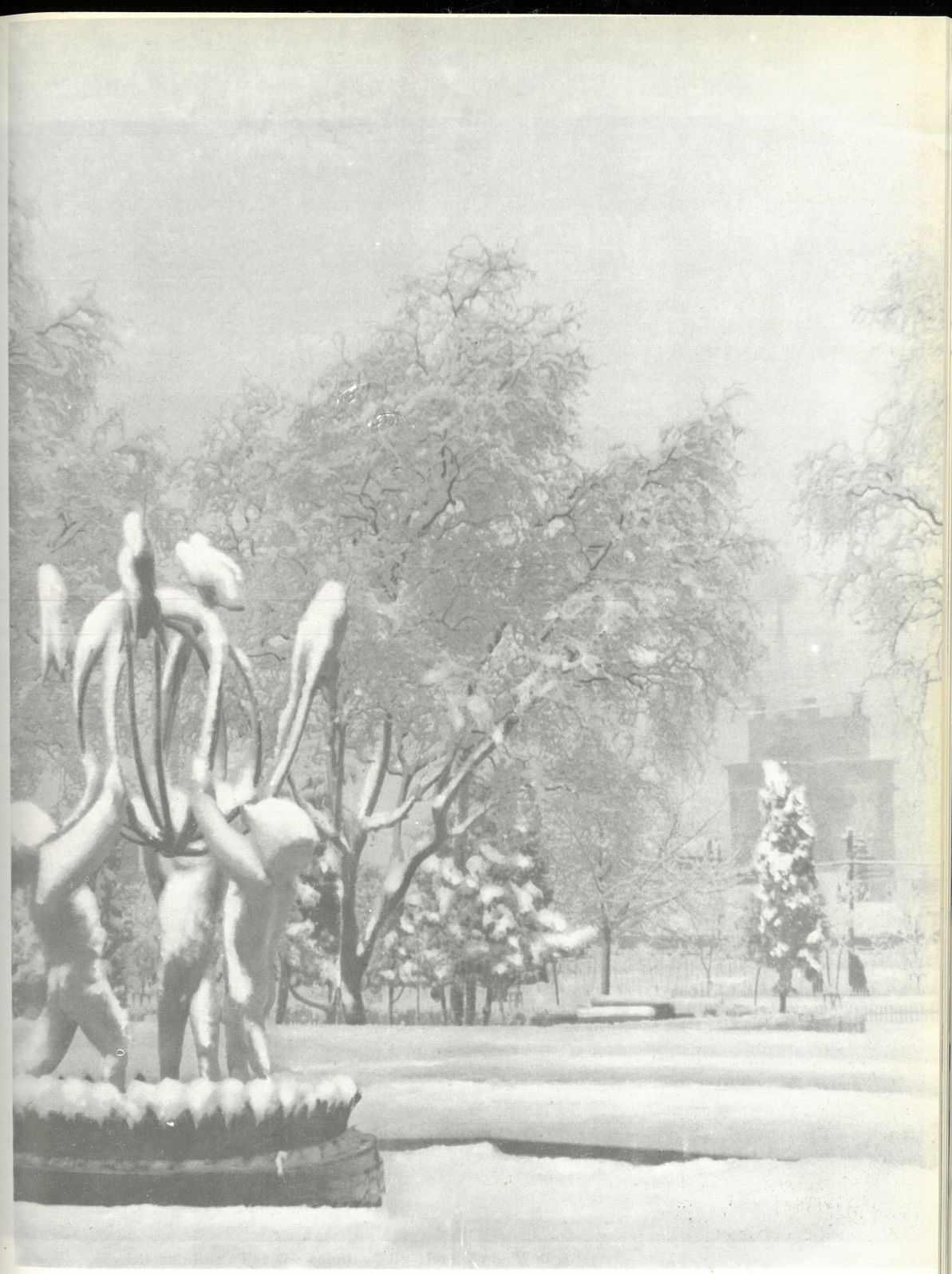
The South Korean people braving the bestial suppressive measures of the U.S. imperialists and their running-dogs, are waging a valiant struggle against U.S. colonial rule and for their right to life and for unification of the country without outside interference.

Today, the wish of the whole country for unification is stronger than ever.

The South Korean people are fighting heroically under the banner of anti-U.S., national salvation; and the people in the North are working diligently to reinforce the independent national economy so as to aid the fighting South Korean brothers and sisters.

No schemes of U.S. imperialism can check the advance of the Korean people who are marching persistently toward unification.

The sinister machinations of U.S. imperialism to perpetuate the national split are sure to be crushed, and Korea's unification will certainly come.



A morning after snow in Heungnam

Oil painting "For the country" By Hong Jong Won

The chorus

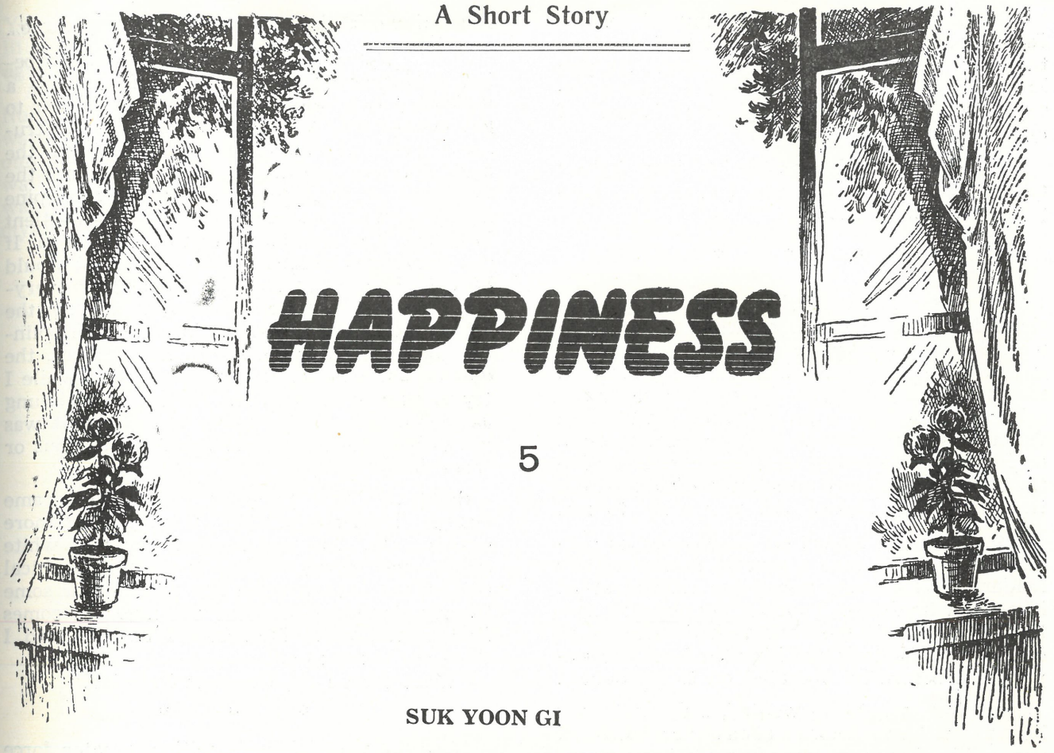
The Song and Dance Ensemble of the Korean People's Army

With its colourful programmes of songs and dances the Korean People's Army ensemble tours all parts of the country, giving performances for soldiers and general public. All the numbers on their programme expressing the militant spirit and revolutionary romantisim are well-loved by all.

A group dance

A dance portraying the unity of the army and the people

A Short Story



HAPPINESS

5

SUK YOON GI

There was a little pause in his talk which left me with a chance to draw a deep breath. He and I have been childhood pals, but listening to him was not, on my part, without pain and shame.

As if out of no place, a young couple passed by us. Evidently they had come from the direction of the Taidongmoon Gate—we did not notice their approaching as we were so engrossed in our talking. The young fellow must be feeling quite warm—his jacket was not even buttoned, while the girl had her overcoat collars stood. Paying little attention to us (I didn't think they even noticed us), they went their way talking in whispering voices.

I wondered. What would they be talking about so fondly at this hour of the night? Would they be talking about happiness, too? Then, what are their thoughts? They may not know such happiness, so profound and so thorough, as my friend is talking about. I dare say their happiness is much simpler and more clearly delineated. I envy them. For their happiness the older generation fought and toiled, to whom the process itself was happiness. I only wish what the young people are thinking is not so earthly and coarse as I thought..... Maybe they were laughing at me for my such foolish worries—suddenly a loud laughter of the young couple was heard.

"Well, that's all there is to be said, I guess. Shall we go back?"

Throwing the cigarette butt into the river, Hyung Jin stood up from the bench. In slow pace we began to walk back toward home. In a leisurely manner he resumed:

It took me four years in preparing for the operation. It was during these years that I made some modest success in my work of treating the articular tuberculosis cases. Newspapers gave more space than it deserved. You know it, too, so don't let me tell you about it any more. But, only this much. At the beginning, I must confess, it was little different from groping in the dark, but eventually I succeeded in opening up the bone and planting a stimulant for regeneration of the bone. At that time I wrote a paper for a medical magazine, which became eventually a dissertation for the degree of master.

The song that I had heard Seung Jai and Ok Joo singing that night made me find the method, how to cure the spinal cases. As you know, I succeeded in filing off the bone decayed and transplanting a piece of "bone" of sponge matter.

Many cases I had operated on, from lighter cases to serious ones, before I made him hospitalized. It was in 1960.

* * *

This was all he said about the four years—the difficult four years, of which I knew so well, too. He wanted to talk about Seung Jai and Ok Joo. Of course I had known him; he was not a bragging type. I had often heard my colleagues having a lot of trouble with him when they harassed him for some information on his work. He would tell them there was little to be said. So they sometimes asked me help them, knowing Hyung Jin was close to me.

Yet, we could report on his researches sufficient enough to give a general picture to our readers. There were numerous articles about him—how he designed special instruments, how they were made (he had visited factories so often), how he took out his own bone for experiment before he operated on the patients...

Knowing what he wanted, I did not coax him to tell me more about those difficult years. I let him talk about Seung Jai's operations. He described.

I tell you. In all cases, stories about operation are not entertaining, and his case was worse—after all, here was a very serious case. Compared to a house, he was without the pillar! The operation took almost the whole day. A dozen or so people were assigned to it. Of course, the whole hospital's attention was on his case.

Before the operation the entire crew read together the story of "The Surgeon of the Guerrillas." I must tell you this, too. The county Party chairman who had been in Pyongyang on business, called us on the phone to encourage us.

When the appointed hour came, with a heavy sense of responsibilities I entered the operation room. Ok Joo was there, and I could sense her eyes following me—the clear and bright eyes, the eyes speaking much. Trying not to look her in her face, I started the operation.

Soon the pus was cleared off, and the pleurae were removed, and the infected part was exposed, where the cursed Yankee splinter had lodged. My hands began to tremble because I realized once again I was handling the dear life of a human being, not a house of log. I had to use the file—the most difficult part was that with one hand I had to press in his back so that I could work the file between the pleurae...

Here I was—as you know I am far from being dexterous—yet I had to perform such a delicate job. (It had taken me almost a year to get acquainted with the operational instruments.) Now the infected part was cut out, the spine was severed into two, and I could see the ugly piece of the splinter. Then the white spine nerve showed and hid itself as the patient breathed. The splinter had to be removed. If the nerve was caught in the splinter, it would be cut off and it would be the end of everything. Suddenly a fear overtook me. From the appearance I could not tell whether the splinter had eaten into the nerve. Even if not, the danger was still there: it may snap off while I try to remove the splinter. For ten years Seung Jai could not use his lower body, but, it was yet to be determined if it was from the pus or from the splinter.

Suddenly the patient's breathing became heavy! It meant things were getting more urgent. His life was hanging on that white string—the nerve. This is the philosophical subject the human mind has debated for some twenty centuries—whether the material comes first or the spirit. Desperate I became, and I cried out in my mind.

"What shall I do, Comrade Premier?"

* * *

Now the wind hissed with a greater force over the river. And the sky looked—it would pour down at any minute. My friend kept talking.

* * *

The penetrating voice of the Premier who had given shivers to the Japanese was in my heart.

"Have trust in man and love man!"

Yes, I put trust in Seung Jai's will-power. His steel-like spirit inspired me.

The operation room was tenseness itself. The anaesthetist administered more ether, and the patient's breathing became even again. In a decided manner, I got hold of the ugly piece and removed it from Seung Jai's spine. Would you believe me if I tell you that I saw the distorted, oily faces of Wall Streeters in that piece of metal? I wish you could have some idea what a sense of triumph I felt when I picked up the piece with my pincers. I cried out to myself: "Thanks, Premier!"

To our great relief, Seung Jai's spine was all right. I guess Seung Jai was simply too much for a Yankee bullet! Greatly agitated but calmly and with a minute accuracy I put a piece of sponge "bone" in its place, while this going on, I knew all the time Ok Joo's eyes were on me. As to her part in the operation, she was as efficient as a surgeon could hope. Yet, I could tell the operation overtaxing her little heart. She looked haggard and almost aged, which ached me very much.

After the operation we stayed up four nights. Nobody wanted—they could not even they wanted—to take a rest before they knew the outcome of the difficult work. Yet, I could not walk into his room and find out how the patient was doing. I guess I was afraid in a way. I kept myself to my office and they were to let me know right away if there was any "sign." Ok Joo stayed up with him in the ward. I bet she was as anxious and uneasy as I was, if not more.

It was the fourth night. I sat before my desk looking into space, yet I was all ears. If there were any footsteps in the hallway I stood up holding the stethoscope. Heaven knows how many times I had repeated that. But everytime the footsteps either passed by my door or dis-

appeared short of it. What a relief I felt then!

The night was getting quite late. The stillness of the hallway was wrecked suddenly. Someone, it sounded, was almost running in the corridor. Again I jumped to my feet as if there was a spring. The footsteps became louder. I hoped they would disappear in some other direction, but they were coming toward me, I could tell. I knew, it was Ok Joo rushing to me.

Sure enough the door of my room was open; Ok Joo stood there a while without saying anything. When she did speak, all she said was almost incoherent words: "Doctor, they are moving, moving!" I guess I was not exactly alert either. Before I knew it, both of us were in Seung Jai's room, she repeating: "They are moving!"

Standing by Seung Jai's bed, I saw what Ok Joo had meant. His toes that had been immobilized nearly ten years were moving! Words failed me.

We all had hoped this would happen, but when it did happen, the impact was too great to bear. Was I to laugh or shed tears?

Ok Joo, by now well-composed again, stepped forward to stand by me and said in a whispering voice: "Thanks, doctor!"

I turned my eyes to her—I almost took her for Kyung Sook! Ok Joo was almost in tears. That was my first and last tears that I saw in her eyes. I realized then what it meant, the moving of Seung Jai's toes. And there was a lump in my throat, too. So hurriedly I ran out of the patient's room.

* * *

My friend breathed heavily as if he had just come out of Seung Jai's room. Then, he noticed where we were. Laughing heartily he said.

Look, where we are! Looks like it's going to pour down, too. At any rate, talk is over. But I must add this. After that I saw Ok Joo helping her husband to be on his feet again. How merry her laughters sounded. How cheerful and peaceful she looked, she was free from all worries. I thought nature was extremely biased to her to endow her with such beauty. In her I saw all the noble features of a Korean woman.

Before long Seung Jai left the hospital toward happiness and communism. Yes, he walked out the hospital!

Last autumn they were formally married. They had set the date convenient for the county Party chairman and me, who had to be in Pyongyang to attend the Party Congress. But, to my regret, there was a meeting after the Congress that I had to be present. It was a meeting I could not miss very well. It was a conference of the Academy. So I was unable to see their wedding, but I sent them a long message—a most sincere message.

I hear the county Party chairman was quite excited that day. You know he is a serious man, but he sang a few songs and even danced to one or two tunes! They say his eyes were moisted all the time.

Seung Jai was given a new assignment and he and Ok Joo left the town. They sent me their wedding picture and I sent them ours, for which they wrote a long letter—I suppose that kind of letter is what we call a letter of heart.

Now Seung Jai is in a mine. For the advancement of the extraction industry he has gone down in the pit. The ore he mined will feed our industry, and our industry will enrich our life!

I almost can say now this is all I wanted.

When you were reporting on the completion of this Okryoo Bridge, I was preparing my instruments for the operation. When you wrote about the unveiling of the Chullima statue I wrote the discharge papers for Seung Jai.

And it is for you to write the conclusion.

Since you're interested in, you'd better know this, too, as well. About my personal affairs, there will be something to be told pretty soon. So you don't need to worry about it any longer. It seems the county Party chairman did a lot of propaganda work on my behalf. Believe me, there have been a lot of possibilities. But somehow I am a sort of by-stander and the county Party chairman is doing all the talking, and he is turning down one after another. He is quite hard to please, too. I hear there is a best one, but he is not sure yet! At any rate, the matter may be settled pretty soon. So you'd better start looking for a nice present, eh?

* * *

In the distance, against the dark sky, the Chullima Statue was seen on the Mansoodai Hill—the image of Chullima dashing in the lightning. Once more, I looked at my friend, a truly ordinary man of this era! Big drops began to come down. "Here she comes!" with these words he began to run in big strides, just like an innocent boy.

Standing there in the rain, I watched him headed for the house. The early spring shower now began to pour as if it wanted to wash off my hazy thoughts, on the dust covered shoes, and on the head filled with earthly thoughts.

— The End —

REMOVE THE OBSTACLE FIRST

KIM KI SUK

Worker of the Pyongyang Building-Machine Plant

THE day was over and I could see women workers, by twos and threes and in their smart-looking dresses, leave the factory. They were headed for the Grand Theatre to attend the performance of a dance drama. And I said to myself: What a good life we are having!

When I was young—then Korea was groaning under colonial rule of Japanese imperialism—it was not infrequent to skip meals. Our family was very poor, and it tormented mother, who wanted to do so much for us. Painful it must have been for her to see the children going to bed on empty stomach. I remember. There were times when I, still a child, badgered mother to give me something to eat. I cried and cried until exhaustion put me to sleep.

Even after liberation, things improved little. Inchon, the port city in South Korea, is my home town. My younger brothers and sisters grew up there in a situation as miserable as before when I was a child. My heart contracts to think of those days when the family, eight of us, suffered. When the Americans came to Inchon, they most generously used the words "liberation" and "freedom". But, in reality they drove the people deeper into an abyss of poverty and took away all their rights.

The iron works where my father and I used to work for a starvation wage was closed down. My younger brothers and sisters, instead of going to school, used to go to the mountain on the outskirts of the city to pick greens from early spring even before snow melted away.

How can they live on today in South Korea, a living hell on earth, where the Yankees are acting as if they owned the place? Such thought is always haunting me.

Fifteen years have passed since I came over to North Korea.

The Americans have divided our country into the north and the south—there has been no travel between the two parts of the country, even mails cannot go through.

Now my parents must have turned grey, and my brothers are grown-ups! Had it not been for the artificial barrier, my family would have been together and leading a happy life.

With such thoughts, I came home. Two younger children ran up to me—they have not seen their grandparents yet.

Why should our country be divided into two parts? It is only because of the U.S. imperialists that such an intolerable situation has come about in our land. Only the U.S. imperialists block the unification of our country. If the U.S. aggressive army had not occupied South Korea, the South Korean people would have long been enjoying a good life in the unified country together with the people in the North.

From the first day of their occupation of South Korea, the American imperialist aggressors have turned South Korea into a colony and military base and a bridgehead for a new war and obstructed in every way the peaceful unification of Korea. They are rushing with war preparations; military bases were built, now lethal weapons brought in, and their military forces expanded.

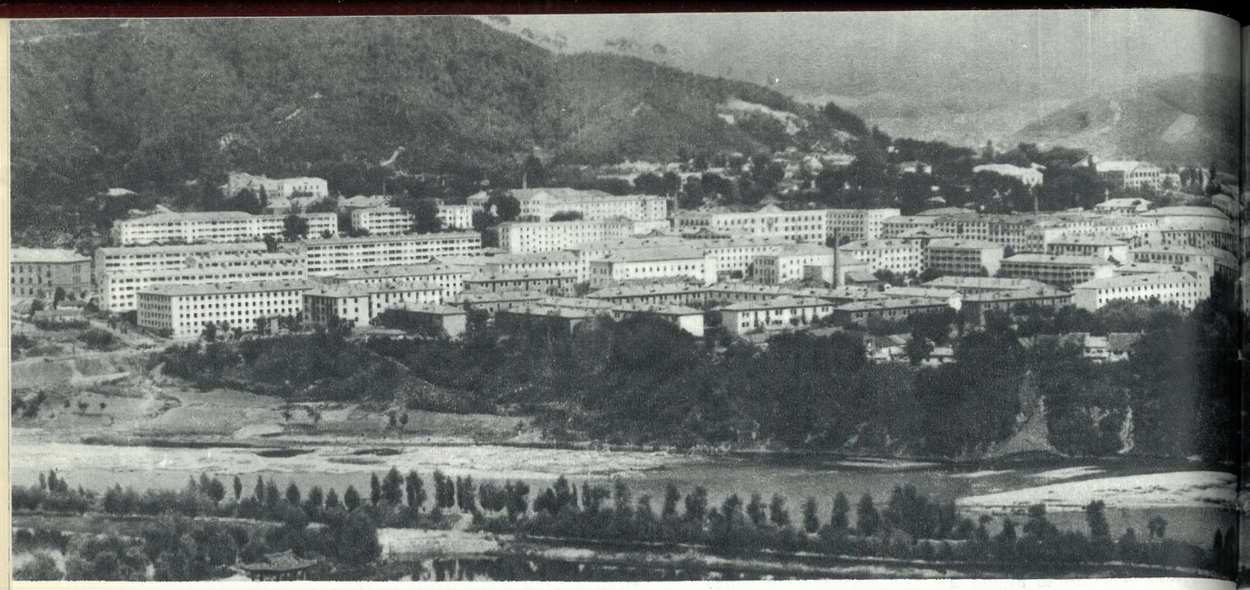
My home town Inchon is now a naval port for the Yankees, and the people are having the worst time. I can hardly suppress my anger and indignation at the Yankees—they are the ones that have divided our nation into the north and south and condemned our brothers and sisters to abject poverty.

We must rescue them. This is the earnest wish of the entire North Korean people, who are raising higher the flames of struggle for increased production in order to hasten the day of unification so that the entire people of Korea, north and south, will live happily on the unified land.

Our factory made a turning lathe "Unification" over and above the production quotas for the relief of the South Korean people.

Youths and students and entire people of South Korea are waging a bloody struggle against U.S. imperialism and the puppet regime and for the unification of the country. U.S. imperialism, the arch enemy of the Korean people, has brought poverty and misfortune on the South Korean people and is preventing the people in the north and south from meeting each other. The Yankees must be driven out of South Korea at once.

Only when U.S. imperialism, the main obstacle to unification, is swept away from this land, can unification, the earnest aspiration of the Korean people, be attained. Then my family too will be reunited. To drive out U.S. imperialism from South Korea—it is the first and foremost condition for Korea's unification.



A view of reconstructed Kanggye City after the war

Kanggye—A Growing City

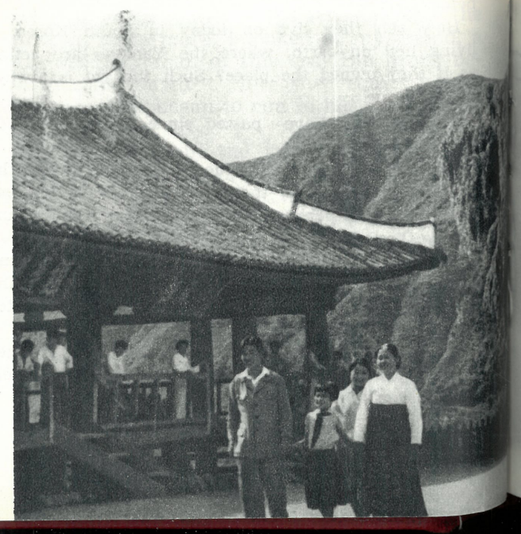
KANGGYE, a city of 560 years old and walled by the high mountains, is on the Dokro River in the northern region of the country.

History mentions Kanggye being a border fortress in 1401. It was also a place for exiles.

During Japanese occupation of Korea Kanggye—then it was a mere mountain town—was haunted by poverty. The Japanese were only interested in exploiting the rich natural wealth of this region including lumber. They had the least concern about the growth of the place, which was crowded with miserable-looking huts. Then Kanggye was levelled to the ground in the Korean war by the U.S. planes.

A part of the Kanggye Wine Factory—Kanggye wine is very popular

The Impoong-roo Pavilion was built in 1473



After the truce (July 1953) the people have built factories, houses, cultural establishments, and welfare facilities with the same spirit as they crushed the American imperialists.

There had been only a brewery in the pre-liberation days in Kanggye, but now thirty-six factories stands—a machine factory, a farm machine repair factory, a daily necessaries factory, etc., etc. Then houses with some 600,000 square metres of floor space have gone up. Today with its four- and five-storied buildings and wide streets running in all directions, the city presents a modern look.

On the hills and along the river there are houses of various sizes and stories in harmony with the surrounding landscapes.

Before the Mangmi-jung Pavilion there are the Kanggye middle school and a theatre. Today the city boasts of four colleges including the veterinary college, thirty-four different schools and some forty hospitals and clinics. Then there is a big stadium at the foot of the Jabook Hill.

Mangmi-jung (built in 1837) and Inpoong-roo Pavilions (built in 1473), the former on the Dokro River and the latter on a cliff, are the pride of the city; they are recreation centres for the citizens.

With the growing city, the people's life, too, has improved rapidly.

Let's take one family for example.

Sin Pil Soo, a worker at a saw mill, and his family live in a comfortable apartment on the westside of the city. (Before liberation he was an ignorant, poverty-stricken farmer.) Of his nine children, one is a zoo-technician, two are officers of the People's Army, one (girl) is a food store manager, and one a nurse. Four are in technical and middle schools.

His is not an isolated case, however. The people of the city, like every one in all parts of the land, are exerting to build their city into a cultural one and make their life a yet better one.

Kanggye that had remained the same for centuries—a remotest place—has been turned into a thriving city and a cultural centre. Today it is an industrial city and the seat of Jagang Province.

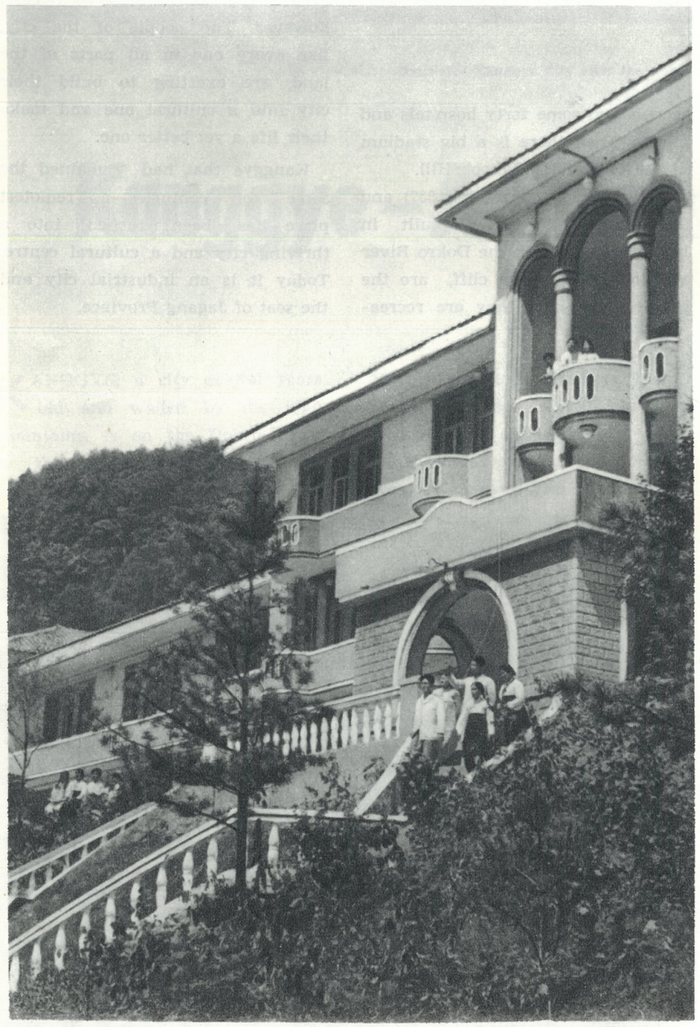
Kanggye Middle School

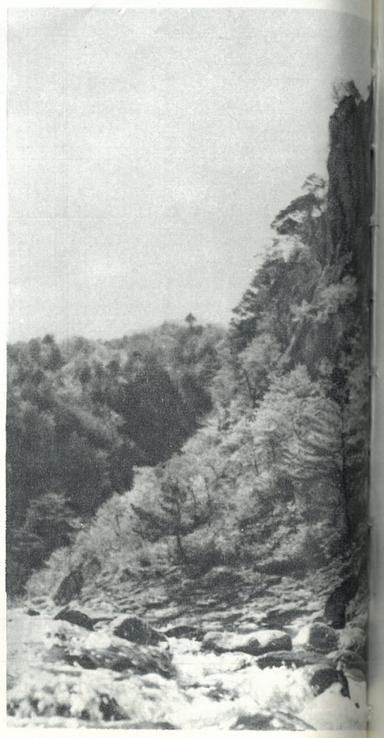
Sambang

The Sambang gorge, some 40 kilometres southwest of Wonsan, the port city on the east coast, has been known for its scenic beauty and a famous spa.

Blossoms in the spring time are lovely, but no less gorgeous is the autumnal tinge when all the mountains are "flaming." Then many clear streams and thunder-

The rest home in Sambang





A view of Sambang Valley

ing waterfalls are to be found among the mountains—Waoo and Kikak ridges being particularly famous.

To Sunmoodai—the heavenly maidens' plateau—a story has it, maidens from the heaven enchanted by the lovely scenery descended and danced on it. With the limpid Sesim stream rushing down the ridge, the region is a "fairyland" itself.

There are several waterfalls in this region, the biggest being the Sambang falls which thunder down the thickly-wooded cliff, some 50 metres high, another pride of Sambang.

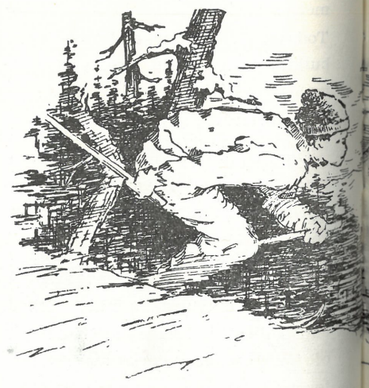
But the name of Sambang is associated, above all, with its famous spa, the efficacy of which against stomach troubles, specially gastric ulcer, has been in everybody's mouth.

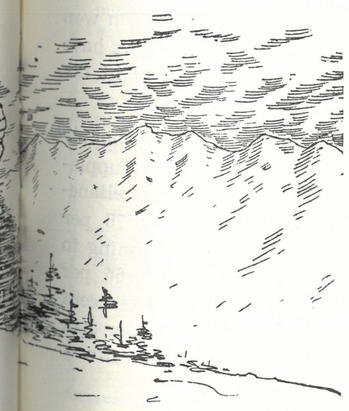
Despite its scenic beauty and its benefitial waters, Sambang had remained beyond the reach of the ordinary people until the country's liberation. Only the moneyed and privileged circles frequented there.

It was only after the August 15 liberation that the Sambang gorge opened for the people.

In 1946, the year after liberation, a rest home was built there. But it was destroyed during the Korean war owing to the savage indiscriminate bombing of the American aggressors. They had known very well there had been no military targets but they levelled just the same the rest home to the ground. In the postwar years modern recreational facilities have been built anew, and every year about 3,000 working people take rest here at the expense of the state.

Sambang in winter time is a famous skiing ground.





SOUTH KOREA'S NEW BUDGET

AS in the previous years the puppet clique of South Korea again has drawn up a budget for the year, which calls for some 124,980 million won, or 40,000 million won more than last year, a 47 per cent increase. As a matter of fact, this is the largest budget the puppet regime is yet to have.

However, the budget is by no means based on the growth of the national income but on the barbaric plunder of the people. Moreover, most of the expenditure—91,800 million won or 27,000 million won more than last year—is for military purposes and expanding the fascist ruling machinery. In short, it envisages little fund for production. Altogether, 74 per cent of the total outlay is for war. A further breakdown shows the South Korean regime, a faithful instrument of U.S. policy of aggression and colonialism, is to spend 38,580 million won, about 10,500 million won more than last year for direct military purposes.

All this well reflects Pak Jung Hi's policy—putting the whole South Korea on the war-footing and war provocations. In this connection Pak Jung Hi bluntly stated: "We shall maintain the equipment of all the divisions on the highest level, continue to bring in modern weapons, especially the latest aircraft and missiles, and dispatch more troops to South Vietnam."

Under the heading the "general expenses" 53,230 million won, an increase of 16,480 million won (46 per cent) over last year, is allocated to the maintenance and reinforcement of the puppet ruling machinery.

It eloquently testifies how desperate the puppet rulers are working to strengthen and reinforce their repressive machinery, which faces a total collapse before the struggle of the patriotic youths and students of South Korea, and to plunder the people more mercilessly. Then the "general expenses" foresee a large sum of funds to local governments with a view to fortifying the ruling machineries in the local areas so as to make them implement the state policy more effectively.

In the present budget the fund for "investments and loans" is notably increased. In the "general account" 32,700 million won is allocated to the "investments and loans"—a 12,980 million won increase (or 66 per cent) over 1965. Then the "special account" will have 12,500 million won, making altogether 45,200 million won for "investments and loans."

Now Pak Jung Hi is praising his budget. According to him,

the budget is designed to fulfil the "five-year plan" this year and make the economy a big leap, lay a foundation for making the economy independent and for industrialization, build a welfare state, boost the grain output, modernize fishery, and effect a price control.

Despite all these high-sounding words what Pak Jung Hi is really aiming at is something quite different. Helping the medium- and small-sized firms and the civilian industries is not in his thinking. All his regime is concerned about is to fortify military establishments, increase military potentialities, pave the way for foreign monopoly capital to come into South Korea on an extensive scale, and help the comprador capitalists, the errand boys of the foreign monopolists.

Having railroaded the "South Korea-Japan agreements" through the national assembly, the Pak Jung Hi clique is working diligently to put a red-carpet for the Japanese and other monopoly capital that is expected to come into South Korea under the name of "credit missions." This can be easily seen in the fact that more than 50 per cent of the fund for investments and loans is set aside for the comprador capitalists, exporters, and military suppliers.

Pak Jung Hi has been in the habit of clamouring for "stable farm prices" and "aid to medium- and small-sized firms." But, in reality, very little money has been earmarked for them.

No more than 200 million won, one-624th of the total expenditure, has been listed as agricultural fund, then one-156th for aiding the medium- and small-sized firms. However, even such small amount will be used for running offices and for a few hand-picked medium and small businessmen, landlords, and rich peasants who are under the wings of the Pak Jung Hi clique as well as the comprador capitalists.

Indeed, the South Korean regime has drawn up a large budget, but most of the reveune is expected to come from taxation—a far heavier one than last year's for the people. Money from tax will reach 66,980 million won, a 24,800 million won increase or a 59 per cent growth over last year. In addition to this, the government "monopolies" and "miscellaneous incomes" will boost its collection from the people to 93,300 million won—75 per cent of the total revenue, an increase of 38,000 million won (or 76 per cent) over the last year's budget.

In this year's estimated revenue the "counterpart fund" provided by the U.S. "aid" relatively decreased from the last year's 33 to 25 per cent, though in terms of won the fund will reach 31,700 million won. (Last year it was 28,400 million won. The difference is explained by the new exchange rate.)

The Pak Jung Hi clique is working overtime to paint as if the swollen tax money comes from the expanding national income. But this is a cock-and-bull nonsense.

South Korea's agriculture which takes 40 per cent of the gross value of total output is in a miserable condition. As this is written, it is estimated that the wheat, barley and rice yield would decrease by 30 per cent each.

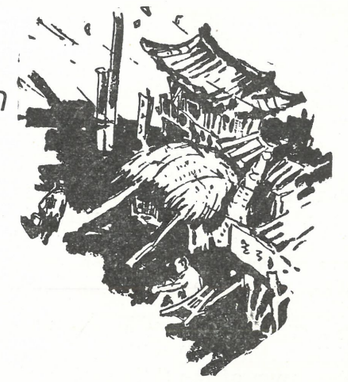
The medium- and small-sized firms which hold 98.5 per cent of the total number of factories in South Korea fare no better. The operation rate in the first half of last year was 30 per cent in the milling industry, 40 per cent in fibre industry, less than 40 per cent in iron and steel industry, and 10 per cent in soap industry. And no more than 46.8 per cent of the medium- and small-sized firms were operating.

Now, the average wage in South Korea is scarcely one-fourth of the minimum cost of living. Such being the situation, it is out of the question for the South Korean people to be burdened with such heavy loads of taxation. Therefore, the Pak Jung Hi regime is planning to increase the force of revenue officers by 1,000 and build more tax offices. They are out to squeeze no less than 100,000 million won from the people. They are studying how to "improve" the tax system and raise various government charges to collect more money. They figure to boost their tax collection by 10,000 million won by indirect taxes. To this end, the tax laws have been revised—there are no less than eight tax laws including "the income tax law."

The budget foresees doubling monopoly charges over the rates listed in the "supplementary budget" of last year, and "miscellaneous incomes" are to be increased by 76 per cent. Besides, the puppet regime is planning to raise all kinds of "government fees:" 66 per cent on an average in postal rates, 100 per cent in telephone and telegraph charges, 16 per cent in electricity bills, and 20 per cent in railway fares.

It is obvious that such a budget, unsteadier than the last year's, has no legs to stand on. To start with, the budget of the puppet regime had a deficit of 7,500 million won when it was drawn up. So they cut the expenditure by 2,500 million won, while blindly raising the tax income by 5,000 million won. Moreover, they expect to get 3,100 million won from "deductions in loans." There is another factor to be reckoned with: It is the soaring prices—in South Korea the prices rise nearly by 30 per cent every year. All in all, the deficit will grow. And it is obvious that the new budget drawn up to serve the U.S. policy of militarization and colonization, will ruin the South Korean economy further.

The Tragedy of a Former South Korean Captain



As usual Li Ki Hwan left home early in the morning hoping the day would be a good one. The autumn wind was unusually biting, he felt, maybe because he was walking on an empty stomach. He was on his way to the railway station.

The season was perfect for excursion, and many sightseers from Seoul were coming to visit the Mangwol Temple in Euijungboo.

And Li Ki Hwan was hoping to get a few customers—he was a porter.

When he was at the station, the first train was in and quite a number of sightseers, men and women in the smart-looking American-styled travelling outfit, got off. Soon as they were outside the station, they were surrounded by an army of porters. And Li Ki Hwan, too, ran to them. He had to face much competition, but his ill health—he had been sick for some time—made him hardly "beat" others.

But luck was with him this morning: there was a voice calling "carrier!" He rushed to the middle-aged man who asked him to carry a big suit-case. It was too heavy for him, but he managed somehow the stiff path to the Mangwol Temple. There were times that he felt he would roll down, the suit-case and all, but he made it, for which he was given 100 won—enough to buy gruel for his family of four.

It was not every day that he earned 100 won; sometimes he earned only 50 won, some days even nothing! Then he had to let his family go hungry.

Li Ki Hwan often looked back upon his life—the life of contempt and humiliation. Only two years ago he had been a captain in the South Korean army! He had been in the army for twelve years. But as soon as it was found out that he was a tuberculosis case, they discarded him like an old hat. And now nobody cared for him despite all the talks about veterans.

For two years he had wandered about hunting for a job, but no job was available. In the end he decided to become a porter for the hikers to the Temple.

As dusk fell, Li Ki Hwan was on his homeward journey, but his pocket was light. The faces of his hungry wife and children waiting for him appeared before his eyes. He recalled once again the days of army life. Now he was bitter over the past twelve years, and, grinding his teeth, shouted: "The devils! I must make them pay for my lost youth!"

About this "captain porter," the South Korean daily *Kyunggi Maiil Sinmoon* wrote: "His illness is getting worse. He simply cannot see how he can make a go of it. And the winter is just around the corner. He is stamping his feet to stop the approaching winter... He needs a job, very badly, too!"

Now in South Korea there are 1,800,000 veterans who, like Li Ki Hwan, have no jobs. Hunger and humiliation are their lot. They are doing their utmost to survive, but things are getting worse for them.

The U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique are only interested in dragging the young people in South Korea to the army. But, when they find these men useless, they throw them out in the cold. This is the real picture of South Korea that boasts of good care of veterans.

America's Vandalism

FROM the early day of their occupation of South Korea the U.S. imperialists plundered and robbed the cultural relics of this nation.

Under the absurd labels of "enemy property" and "war booty" they have taken away tens of thousands of items of Korea's national treasures preserved in museums and libraries in South Korea. Among them are part of the complete set of Sutras of the Koryu period (the complete collection of Buddhist Sutras compiled in 1236-1251. Some 86,600 blocks were used in printing.), original copy of the Hoonmin Jungeum (The first book of the Korean alphabet published in 1446) with explanatory notes, the gold crown of the Silla period, rivieres, bracelets, gold rings...

It was only natural that U.S. robbery should evoke anger of the South Korean people. Condemnation of U.S. imperialism for removing the nation's treasures swept the whole land.

Now, even the shameless American aggressors being caught red-handed, had to figure out something else to deceive the people. Hence the "plan for the dispersal of Korea's national treasures" which they had made their South Korean puppets adopt in 1949. Under the plan, a more respectable name for the open robbery, the U.S. imperialists in June 1949 shipped to the United States hundreds of items of Korea's national treasure including the priceless Koryu porcelain preserved in the Kaesong Museum. And in March 1950, they took the printing blocks of "Dongeuibogam," an encyclopaedia of traditional Korean medicine. published by Hoh Jun, a medical scientist of Korea, in 1613. During the war-time, the plan was all the more zealously carried out. In the early days of the war, it was known, U.S. imperialism and the Syngman Rhee clique, when fleeing to Pusan, took some 10,225 items of cultural relics with them. However, they figured Pusan was not safe, so, to find a "safer" place they took all those Korea's national treasures to the United States! This is a case of the old Korean saying which reads entrusting valuables with a thief!

After the war, Washington—of course, it did not even make a gesture of returning these goods—knew that their old plan for dispersal outlived its usefulness.

They had to come up with something new—this time the "overseas exhibition plan" and "export plan."

Particularly, the "export plan" for sending Korea's cultural assets to other countries, the making of the Pak Jung Hi clique, was nothing new. It is a method long championed by the U.S. imperialists, for it is a plan to legalize oral agreement reached between the master and the servant on "offering" and "receiving."

This notwithstanding, the Pak Jung Hi clique is shamelessly uttering that it is a step for "securing foreign currency".

Today thanks to the special export permit, a large number of cultural assets of Korea are continuously being shipped to the United States and Japan. In May 1963, 140 items of handicraft works of the Li dynasty were sent to the United States. Then Hiyashi, a Japanese, who came to South Korea as an "economic mission of Japan" took hundreds of thousands of won's worth of Korea's treasures to Japan.

This is not all. Pak Jung Hi and his regime make presents to their masters with priceless cultural pieces of the nation, hoping to get their "protection" and "favour".

It has been exposed that high-ranking officials of the Pak Jung Hi clique stealthily picked one item after another from the State Museum in Seoul to make gifts to their foreign masters. And, according to the figure made public, no less than 4,000 items, porcelain and handicraft pieces of the Koryu and Li dynasties (worth 200 million won) were removed. For this the puppet clique was censured even by its own men.

Pillage and robbery of cultural relics are not all what the Americans are doing in South Korea. Their vandalism will make all civilized-minds blush. When they cannot remove them, they most savagely destroy and defame everything that testifies to the long cultural heritage of the Korean nation. Of course, it goes without saying that the U.S. imperialist aggressors do this in their attempt to extinguish every trace of our cultural heritage.

They went so far as to exhume tombs of the kings of Korea to rob treasures, they have even brought in Japanese "technicians" to aid them in this unsavory undertaking. Numerous historical monuments, stone pagodas included, were taken away.

The American aggressors also play havoc with Korea's cultural assets in building military bases. In 1948, they demolished part of the Chumsung Observatory built in the mid-7th century), the oldest astronomical observatory in the East, to make room for new military roads! In 1949, they using bulldozers tried to remove the foundation stones of the Manwoldai in Kaesong to build army barracks. During the Korean war, the U.S. aggressors, in gross violation of "International Law on the Protection of Cultural Assets", destroyed museums, scenic spots, and places of historical interest. Thus damage caused by their indiscriminate bombings is beyond calculation.

Particularly, the violation of the tombs of the Kogooryu period (the 1st century B.C.-A.D. 7th century) reveals all the more clearly the barbarity of the U.S. imperialists.

When they were in North Korea, a short while during the war, the U.S. imperialist aggressors tried to rob the mural paintings of Kogooryu in Ryonggang County, South Pyungan Province. But, when they realized that it could not be done easily, they fired thousands of shots at the paintings to make them covered with bullet marks. The Americans—barbarians of the century—lived up to their name.

The U.S. imperialists also used many covert methods. At the order of Washington the South Korean puppets do little for the protection of cultural relics and historical remains. As a result, even those historical remains which were spared during the war have been demolished. Then more cultural assets need immediate repair. Among the state historical remains, 107 needed immediate repair in 1956, but the figure jumped to 422 in 1959.

According to South Korean publications, nothing has been done until now to the Chumsung Observatory which was damaged willfully by the U.S. imperialists in 1948. Now there are more cracks in the wall, and it is collapsing gradually. Besides, the temple in Koyang County, Kyunggi Province, dedicated to patriotic priest Kwon Ryool has been neglected totally. Kwon Ryool is the famous monk whose patriotism was most inspiring in the Imjin Patriotic War against Japan's aggression (1592-98). The stone pagoda of the Silla period (the 7th century-9th century), the only one that remains in South Kyungsang Province, is on the verge of collapse.

This is not all. The South Korean puppet clique has drawn up what is called "special permission on cultivating historical sites". Under it, more historical sites are ruined while the authorities feather their own nests from it. Recently the Pak Jung Hi clique authorized some profiteers to have some 9,000 *pyung* of land cultivated around Goongnam Lake in Booyu. Now a dog fight is on among them for bigger shares of the harvest. As to Goongnam Lake, it is the biggest man-made lake of the Paikche period (the lst century-7th century)—the only remain showing the landscaping of the period.

Moreover, the Pak Jung Hi regime has no scruple to pocket the money collected for repair of historical remains.

In September 1961, they pumped out more than 22,000,000 won from the people and started the work of reinforcing the Sukgool-am Grotto (a granite grotto, built in the mid-18th century, where Gautama and other Buddhist images are placed.). Then three years later, in July 1964, they held a completion ceremony all right. But on that very day, water leaked from the back of a Buddhist image, which gave rise to indignation of the people.

While the robbery of the U.S.-Pak Jung Hi clique is getting worse, the number of the nation's cultural relics and historical sites in South Korea keeps decreasing. In 1962 there were 572 items registered, but the figure shrank to 116 in 1963. The total negligence is obliterating many historical remains, too.

In 1964 for the protection and preservation of cultural relics and historical remains the Pak regime appropriated 14,000,000 won less than in 1959. At present, in South Korea there are nine museums, and the total exhibition space is only 5,200 *pyung* (no more than half of the exhibition space of the Korean Art Gallery in Pyongyang). Many cultural assets are ruined or damaged due to the shortage of exhibition room and storage. Even all the museums are in a sad condition.

Such is U.S. vandalism in South Korea. The U.S. imperialists, vandals of the twentieth century, figured their barbarity would make the South Korean people lose their patriotic spirit. However, the people are fighting against such vicious destructive schemes of the U.S.-Pak clique.

The entire South Korean people including the cultural workers and intellectuals are voicing strongly against the U.S. barbarity. The people determined to carry forward the national culture of our people, are waging a valiant struggle for the preservation of cultural assets.

Coal-miners discussing about some new hewing methods

IN A COAL MINERS' DISTRICT

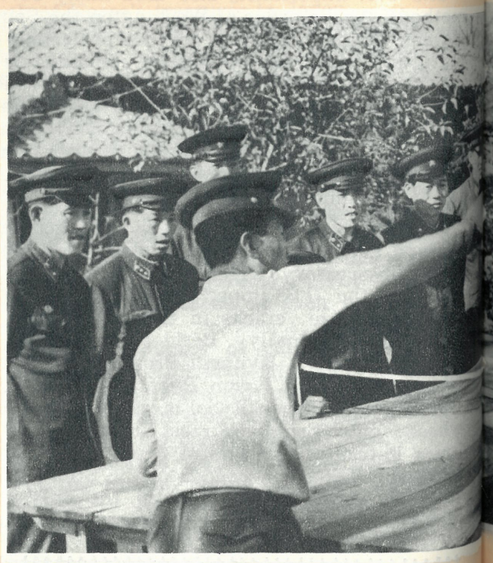
Before liberation, the life of coal miners of the country was a miserable one. They were made to bleed white by the Japanese monopoly capitalists. Terribly long hours of the difficult underground toil plus abject poverty undermined their health. Theirs was a life far removed from sanitation and culture.

But today, things are quite different. Under the people's power, their life is bountiful and cultural. No wonder the coal-miners compare the present and past to light and darkness. Today machines do the work for them, and every safety measure has been provided for them. Then their workday has been shortened to six hours. All the recreational facilities are at their disposal—music, dancing, reading, fine arts, sports, etc. Of course they have happy homes.

Snap-shots in these pages show something of the life of the coal-miners of the country's western coal-region.

Some of the coal-miners are good painters, too

A table-tennis contest is on



The coal-miners' district has a hospital equipped with up-to-date facilities. Clinics have been set up even in the pits

Some are pretty good fiddlers when the day is over

GREAT SAGE PRIEST SUSAN

IN the history of Korea appear names of many priests who fought against aggressors and defended the country's independence and freedom. Priest Susan is one of them.

The thirties in the 16th century were a difficult period for the land as the people's life became all the more difficult while the ruling circles being only interested in scrambling for power.

It was during such a period that Susan was born, who became an orphan at the age of 9 and roamed about the country. But soon he came under the care of a kind man, who, perceiving the boy's extraordinary talent, sent him to Seoul to study.

Three years later, he, indignant at social contradictions and the corrupt feudal society, decided to seclude himself from the world and enter the priesthood. When he was thirty he was already a famous priest. He made pilgrimages to scenic spots in the country, writing poems in praise of beautiful nature and expressing deep sympathy for the downtrodden people. He was an outstanding poet of the era as well.

In April 1592 after several years of preparations Hideyoshi of Japan sent a big force—170,000 on land and 30,000-40,000 on the sea—to make a surprise attack on Korea. Now the country woke up to see its defence neglected thanks to the indifference of the rulers.

The defenders of Pusan and Tongrai fought bravely but they could not check the oncoming enemy. The invaders who had broken down the first line marched deep into Korea meeting little resistance.

Indeed the fate of the nation hung by a thread, and the people refused to watch the events with folded arms; the whole nation rose up to fight the invaders. In the areas under the enemy occupation the people formed volunteers. On the sea Admiral Li Soon Sin and his men blocked the advancing Japanese armada.

In 1592 Priest Susan was 73 years old, yet he could not sit idle. He said to himself: I am a priest, I've made a pledge to transcend all these earthly affairs. But I ask. Can I be indifferent?

Resolutely he left his temple for Euijoo where the king took refuge. He met the king and expressed his determination to devote himself to the cause of the country. Then he was asked to lead the ranks of priests of his sect. He came to Soonan, northwest of Pyongyang, and organized a volunteer corps of monks—some 1,500. Many priests from nearby temples came to him, and in no time his force expanded to 5,000. Susan issued an appeal calling upon all monks of the land, which read: "The aged and sick, unable to take up arms, pray most earnestly at their temples for the nation and victory over the Japanese hordes; all able-bodied, come to join the patriotic volunteer army to fight against the enemy."

In response to his appeal, his disciples in all parts of the country formed volunteer units, the strength of which numbered tens of thousands. In Mt. Keumgang Samyungdang, a favourite disciple of Susan, enlisted some 700 monks; Chuyung over 1,000 in southwest Korea. Monk units appeared also in Kongjoo, Jinjoo, and other regions. All these monks eventually came under the command of Susan.

Priest Susan, though nearing eighty, with his valiant commanders, Samyungdang, Chuyung and others, led the monk units admirably. And all the monks, greatly inspired by valour of aging Susan, blocked the advance of the invaders in various parts of the country.

By this time, the regular army regrouped and started the battle for liberation of Pyongyang. Susan losing no time led his monk army to Pyongyang to aid the soldiers.

The monk units charged into an enemy force on Moranbong Hill and broke through the enemy line, thus paving the way for offensive. When Pyongyang was liberated Susan's troops gave chase to the enemy fleeing southward.

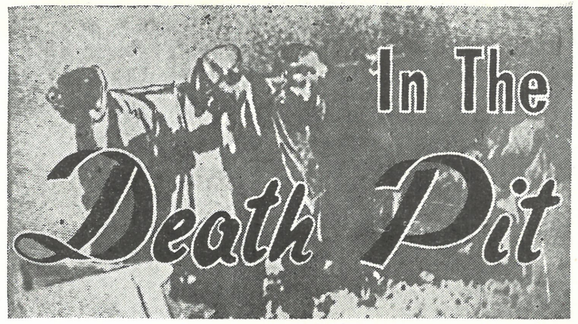
The units under Chuyung crushed the enemy at the Haingjoo Walls in co-operation with the regular army. Samyungdang's troop inflicted heavy casualties upon the invaders in Kyungsang Province.

Leading more than 100 picked soldiers Priest Susan accompanied the king to Seoul after triumphant battles. In other parts of the country, too, the monk soldiers boldly fought side by side with the government army and other volunteers.

This war which is called Imjin Patriotic War in Korea's history lasted 7 years. Now Susan was 80. His age failed him to keep commanding the monk units. He handed the monk army over to his disciples, Samyungdang and Chuyung. And he took leave of the king and returned to his old temple in Mt. Myohyang. Though retired, he did not neglect to encourage his successors.

Educated in patriotism of their teacher, Samyungdang and other monk soldiers refused to put down arms, displaying heroism until the end of the war (1592-1598).

Susan died on January 23, 1604. The people built monuments in Mt. Myohyang and Keumgang dedicated to the patriotic priest. These monuments remain to this day to speak of his exploits.



"Workers dig coal in the narrow pit, some 1,000 feet deep, where there are no props or lights. The place is so small there is no room even for stretching and it is simply suffocating." Thus read an article carried by the South Korean daily *Hangook Ilbo*. The paper was reporting on the miserable South Korean coalmines, particularly referring to the tragedy that took place at the Kuma Mine, where nineteen miners were lost or injured.

Such tragedies are by no means infrequent. No wonder then the South Korean miners call the mines the "death pit" because they are working under the constant threat of pit collapse. Nevertheless, the employers only know money and drive the miners, paying little attention to their safety.

In the Daihan Coal Company alone, for instance, every year the dead and injured from accidents in the pit number more than 1,000.

The picture is still worse with the smaller mines in various parts of South Korea. A great number of miners are seized with all kinds of sickness due to the lack of proper sanitation conditions and safety devices plus back-breaking toil. The result of medical examination of 2,300 miners in four coal-mines including the Hwasoon Colliery in South Chulla Province showed that 1,200 were suffering from T.B. and others needing immediate medical treatment.

In South Korea if the miners become crippled or contract consumption, they are driven out of their work.

This is not all.

Today the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique are adopting "retrenchment policy". As a result, medium and small collieries of South Korea are at a standstill for lack of funds, and a number of miners are laid off. To cite one case: 150 miners of the Sungjoo Colliery in Boryung County, South Choongchung Province, lost their jobs, and they and their 700 family members have been reduced to beggars.

The bankruptcy of the South Korean mining industry can be seen also in the fact that Hwangji-ri, once a thriving miners' community of 60,000 in Jangsung District, Samchuk County, Kangwon Province, has shrunk to 35,000 people.

Even though they may work, the miners receive only one-fourth of the minimum cost of living. Still worse, the woman and child workers are paid less than half what the men get.

The Pak Jung Hi clique, far from taking appropriate measures for rebuilding the coal-mines, are selling the South Korean miners to West Germany. More than 2,000 South Korean miners have been sold to West Germany, where Kim Chul Hwan and three others died while scores were wounded owing to accidents. Like this, the South Korean miners are suffering from hard work and bestial exploitation everywhere. Only death is waiting for them.

But the South Korean workers including miners refuse to tolerate any longer such a miserable life. With the entire people they are waging a valiant struggle to sweep away the Yankee aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi clique, the root cause of their misfortunes.

February 7 Patriotic Struggle

THE February 7 Struggle of the South Korean people in 1948—they fought against the U.S. plan for diving Korea—is of great significance in the history of the Korean people's revolutionary struggle.

It has been the earnest wish of the entire Korean people to put an end to the country's split caused by U.S. occupation of South Korea and establish a united democratic government. However, taking no heed to the people's voice, the U.S. aggressors chose to make Korea's division permanent and turn South Korea into their colony by setting up a puppet regime.

Towards the end of 1947 the U.S. presented illegally what it called the Korean question to the U.N. to create the so-called U.N. Commission on Korea and supervise an "election" in South Korea.

And it was only natural for the Korean people, who wanted to establish a united democratic government without foreign interference, to rise up against the U.S. schemes and the "U.N. Commission."

On January 8, 1948, the workers of the "Kyungsung Textile Company" in Seoul and factories in the Yungdeungpo district walked out in protest against the arrival of the "U.N. Commission." A few days later, on the 13th, Seoul saw huge demonstrations of the youths and students who demanded: "U.N. Commission, get out!" and "Yankees, go home!" Then the workers of the "Kyungsung Electric Company" struck on the 19th. Eventually the spark flew to all parts of South Korea, and by February 7, it was a nation-wide anti-American struggle.

That day press dispatches from Seoul reported: "At dawn communications, telephone and telegraph lines were severed in Seoul, Yungdeungpo, Taejon, Taegu, and Koonsan. And the nation's communications system has been paralyzed. Everywhere leaflets denouncing the U.N. Commission on Korea and demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. army were found" (Josun News Agency). Then another news agency *Hapdong* reported: "At eleven a.m. on the 7th, tens of locomotives were destroyed in Seoul, Pusan, Taejon, Taegu, Soonchon, Andong; the worst was in Seoul and Pusan."

On February 7, workers of railway, communications, and other industrial branches in about 40 cities had a general strike. "No! to U.N. Commission," "U.S. army, go home!" "No separate elections!" and "We want democratic reforms!" were their slogans. By noon, the economic life of South Korea came to a complete standstill. And the whole nation came to aid the workers: demonstrations of peasants and citizens took place, and students boycotted the school.

In the night of the 7th, the peasants in Wanjoo County, North Chulla Province, raided and demolished the police station; next day, in Soowon the people fought a hand-to-hand fight with the policemen; on the 13th, there were again mammoth demonstrations of the youth and students in Seoul.

Leaflets denouncing the "U.N. Commission on Korea" and demanding the country's unification were posted everywhere, and bonfires were lit on the hights as a symbol of anti-U.S. feelings of the people.

The mounting anti-American struggle frightened the Washington government and its South Korean puppets. Now they tried to check the people's struggle in every way.

About one hundred patriots were killed and 8,500 demonstrators were thrown into jail.

But the people fought stubbornly. When the enemy used bayonets, people bare-handed raided police stations and punished the puppet policemen and the terrorists.

The struggle went on for three months.

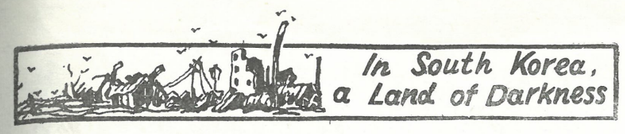
Two million workers and peasants, students and intellectuals, took part in the struggle. They punished 205 puppet policemen and 68 South Korean officials, burned 20 police stations and 19 government and public offices, and demolished 71 locomotives and 563 telephone lines.

In spite of the stubborn struggle of the South Korean people, the separate election was held, and a puppet regime was set up.

The February 7 struggle demonstrated the indomitable spirit of the people for the country's unification without foreign interference. And it exposed to the full the true colour of U.S. aggressive policy, the puppet regime, and the "U.N. Commission on Korea."

Eighteen years have passed since then. But U.S. occupation of South Korea still continues and the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs are set to make the division of Korea permanent and keep South Korea under their colonial rule. U.S. imperialism has brought untold misery on the people of South Korea, and is accelerating war preparations for invading North Korea.

History shows, however, no force on earth can conquer the people determined to fight for their country. Today the South Korean people are fighting more fiercely for the withdrawal of the U.S. army from South Korea, for sweeping away U.S. running dogs, and for achieving the country's unification tolerating no outside interference.



RICE

IN November last year the Pak regime started shipping 60,000 tons of rice to Japan. According to the puppet minister of agriculture and forestry, some 100,000 tons of rice would go to Japan.

60,000 tons of rice! This is the amount enough to feed at least 800,000 for more than six months. Then one may ask: Is South Korea exporting rice because it has so much rice? The answer is a definite "No!" Now in South Korea the number of people underfed runs into millions. The South Korean newspapers report almost every day about numerous cases of starving people and those dying of hunger.

A short while ago, a South Korean paper wrote on a girl, about 10 years old, who, taking her two younger brothers by the hand, was begging from door to door in the streets of Seoul. The girl said, "My whole family has not eaten anything three days now." Then there was the case of Pak Roo Wol, a scenario writer and film director, who fell from hunger. Still worse is the fate of the peasants. In the spring they run out of food, and some one million families survive on tree bark and grass roots. On top of it, in the urban districts 7,000,000 unemployed and semi-unemployed are roaming about. In addition to them, there are low-paid workers and office-workers, bankrupted middle and small businessmen, and flood victims who have little to eat, either.

No wonder then a South Korean critic said "the life is in red" and "survival is a miracle." At present, more than 70 per cent of the entire South Korean population are underfed.

This notwithstanding, the Pak Jung Hi clique is shipping an enormous amount of rice to Japan that had occupied Korea to plunder, oppress, and kill the people for nearly half a century.

Besides the unpardonable rice export, the Pak Jung Hi regime on the order of their American master, was to squeeze 600,000 tons of grain out of the South Korean peasants in 1965. To this end, they raised the price of American fertilizers by some 90 per cent while forcing the peasants to sell rice below the production cost. Then, to collect more grain, the Pak Jung Hi regime has a host of laws and regulations: land tax, irrigation charges, the collection of grain-loans, repayment of loans on the security of rice....

The U.S.-Pak Jung Hi clique are using the extorted grain for feeding the South Korean puppet army, for sale to the Japanese monopolists, and for exploiting the urban inhabitants.

No one but the Pak Jung Hi clique, a band of U.S. stooges, can commit such traitorous crimes.

"HUMAN FOR EXPORT"

SOME time ago, there was a drinking party at the Bando Hotel in Seoul. It was for celebrating the inauguration of "Emigration Company." Speaking at the party the minister of health and social affairs of the puppet regime said: "I am very happy to see the long-projected emigration company make its first step. The government has worked diligently to make this body come to function. I'm sure the new company will play an important role in carrying out President Pak's plan to send 300,000 to Latin American countries, West Germany, South Vietnam, and Brunei." Long ago the Pak Jung Hi clique started to export South Koreans. They have sent many South Koreans—farmers, miners, seamen, and domestic helps—to Brazil, the United States, and other American countries, then to West Germany and Japan.

The Pak Jung Hi clique has a program what they call a human export program, to which Pak attaches much importance. What they are doing is little different from the slave trade of the past—only they don't use shackles, instead they use the method of chaining the people to debt. One look at those South Korean peasants and workers sent to Latin American countries and West Germany is sufficient to grasp the whole picture.

The greedy plantation owners are working "emigrants" of South Korea hard in the poisonous-insect-infested forests and bogs. The situation is unbearable, but the South Korean emigrants can do little as they owe so much money to the farm owners.

In West Germany while the young people are dragged into the revanchist army, much foreign labour is imported. The South Korean men in West Germany are mostly miners. Contrary to the sweet words of Pak and his company, money does not come to their hands—and to make things worse various diseases attack them. Kim Chul Hwan and Kim Sung Tai from South Korea died a tragic death in West Germany owing to accidents in the pit.

As facts show, Pak's "emigration company" is nothing but an outfit for slave-trade. After all, to the Pak Jung Hi clique, a servant of monopoly capital of foreign countries and a stooge of imperialism, selling the country and the nation is their main trade.

A New Feature Film

"A Story of a Soldier"

MIN JUNG SIK

The film "A Story of a Soldier" is based on a true story.

Born into a poor peasant in South Korea, the hero of the story goes through much suffering and hardship from his childhood. Then Korea was under Japanese occupation.

The film speaks of how he fought holding arms in his hand against the U.S. imperialists who came on the heels of the Japanese imperialists and who, having taken away all political rights of the people, have condemned the South Korean people to humiliation.

The film opens with the scenes of the Decoration Section of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea re-examining the record of a soldier who alone captured an unnamed ridge and frustrated the enemy's attack in the Patriotic War of Liberation. And, according to the record, the soldier is dead.

The moving scene of three old comrades-in-arms meeting together

Even if he is dead, the decoration official feels, they should know how he fought for the country so that they can tell his parents and brothers in South Korea about him when the country is unified.

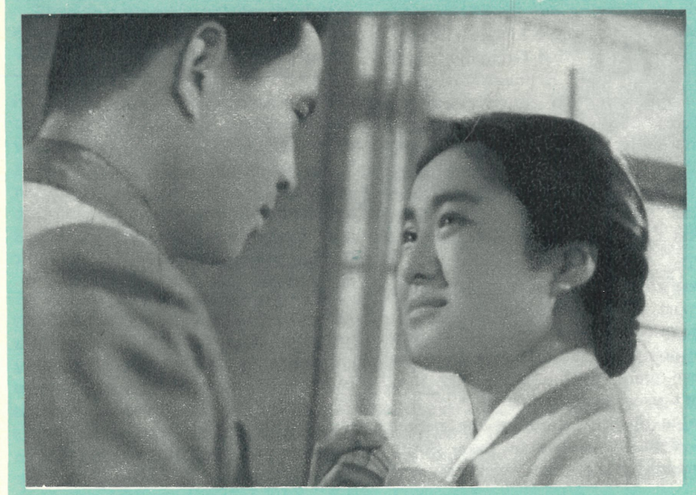
The official of the Decoration Section makes efforts to find out all about the soldier and his war exploits. In a few days the former squad leader under whom our hero fought is located, the squad leader in civilian life is chief of the furnace shop of an iron works.

Now the squad leader remembers that there was a soldier from South Korea in his unit, who died a heroic death at the front. He even recalls the soldier was called Grenade Hero by everyone. The soldier's name was Kim Yung Hwa. Then the former squad leader tells the Decoration Section man that there was even a "song of the Grenade Hero", which was made in praise of the hero's exploits.

Now the official goes to the composer of the song, from whom he learns that the soldier was not dead, but he severely wounded was sent to a field hospital, then to a hospital in the rear.

The official eventually visits the hospital where he meets a nurse, the sweetheart of the hero—she had joined the army with him.

The reunion with his sweetheart



Soldier Kim Yung Hwa holds out single-handed and fights back the enemy

According to her story, the hospital did everything for him and he recovered and returned to the front. He fought in many battles. The aggressive U.S. army in the end fell on its knees before the Korean people.

Hostilities ended in Korea and the difficult postwar rehabilitation and reconstruction started. Socialist construction moves ahead.

Our hero is not dead. Standing in the ranks of the socialist constructors, who have ushered in the era of Chullima, he is working diligently to lay the foundation for the people's freedom and happiness and the country's unification.

Indeed, he is ignorant of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly issuing a decree on awarding the title of Hero on him.

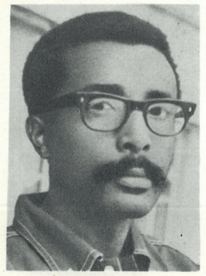
For thirteen years, he has devoted his all to revolution, without telling anyone about his war exploits. His life is a story of this revolutionary era—an era of struggle against U.S. imperialism and for cherishing human dignity.

Everyone who is associated with the production of this film has been guided by the hero's noble heroism and his lofty spiritual world.

Consequently the film, instead of recording the events in a sequence, dwells upon the most important events in his life. The film shows, in short, how strong and heroic a person becomes when he makes up his mind not to be a slave but to fight.

The story is built on the life of the hero—the dark days in South Korea, his army life, then the time of socialist construction. It is a story of today, reflecting the wishes and hopes of the era.

Moved at the story of soldier Kim Yung Hwa the composer at the front writes the "Song of the Grenade Hero"



KOREA, A LAND OF SELF-RELIANCE

Dr. Said Mohammed
United Republic of Tanzania

One sees and lives through a lot of memorable things in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is difficult to name them all, but a few things stand out very prominently and one encounters them all over the country.

The hospitality and warm feelings of friendship of the Korean people strike most the foreigners. Their politeness and their untiring efforts to make one's stay in the country as pleasant as possible are overwhelming.

I knew before coming here that Premier Kim Il Sung is revered by his people for his devotion to the welfare of his country and for his correct and tested leadership both during the war of liberation against Japanese colonialism and during the war of resistance against American aggression. But what I saw in Wonsan was beyond all my expectations. The way people danced, clapped and chanted as they went past Premier Kim Il Sung on the rostrum was so spontaneous and so convincing of the popularity of their equally unassuming, friendly Premier Kim Il Sung and his government. No wonder the Korean people rallied around him so firmly during the Korean war to give the Americans such telling blows.

Another thing that impressed me very much is the application of the policy of self-reliance in every sphere of the life of the country. This, I believe, is the secret of this country's rapid achievements in economic reconstruction after the devastating bombing by the Americans. In every factory, big or small, in every co-operative farm I saw this policy in action. I have seen the most complicated systems of automation, heavy machinery and thousand and one innovations made by simple workers. The longer one stays here, the more one realizes that the policy of self-reliance is not a sterile, chauvinistic policy, but a policy which encourages the enthusiasm and creativeness of the people and the maximum utilisation of the resources of the country and full development of all potentialities.

This of course presupposes a special atmosphere under which the workers, peasants, and intelligentsia love their work and, above all know why and for whom they labour. And that is exactly what the Workers' Party of Korea and their government have succeeded in doing. This also explains the economic and cultural stagnation of South Korea, where a hated, despotic puppet regime, under American domination, is in power.

Also the strong desire of the people in the North to unite with their brothers and sisters in the South is felt whenever one talks with anyone here. Every freedom- and peace-loving people must join them in their just demands for the withdrawal of American aggressive troops from the South, and for the Korean people settling their own problems without foreign intervention. So long as Korea is divided, world peace will always be in danger, as dangerously demonstrated by the events now in Vietnam, where once again the American imperialists are desperately trying to maintain the artificial division of one country, one people by naked aggression.

FROM Our Readers

All articles are very good and they really give a good idea about what Korea is like. In this issue (Korea Today, No. 8) I found "History Has Changed" and "Machine Makers of Rakwon" very good. It was also very interesting to read "Along the west coast". It gives me a good idea about the Korean people's efforts to improve their farming.

I would like to read a little more about sports.

The colour pictures are marvellous and the layout of the magazine is well planned, I think.

I wouldn't mind if there were some more coloured pictures of the scenery of your beautiful country.

ERIK TROENG
Insjon, Sweden

I found articles "Farm Machine Station", "Travelogue" and "Language Class" interesting in the July issue of 1965.

Could you include an article about the public transport system in Korea, and especially advances made recently in the field of bus transport?

About illustrations and layout, front and back covers are excellent, printing and content also middle art illustrations good. Headings for travelogue and on the country's unification show some imagination. Some of the other headings, in plain print, could do with some livening up.

Generally yours is a well balanced journal, dealing with a wide range of Korean life.

C. WAKELING
Durham, England

In this issue of May of 1965 I thought most informative and interesting is the article "A Land Mark in Korea-Indonesia Friendship and Solidarity." I think through this friendship and solidarity we can build the world anew which will be freed from imperialism and colonialism.

We Indonesians always struggle together with the peace-loving people of the world against imperialism and colonialism. We also help South Vietnamese and South Korean people who are fighting against the United States.

Yankee, get out, quit Vietnam and South Korea!

It is 20 years that our country has been freed from Dutch and Japanese imperialism. Now we are to build the world anew, destroying imperialism.

A reader
Indonesia

ANGOLA MARCHES ON

ANGOLA is far away from Korea. But we know well about the struggle of the Angolan people for liberation and independence that started at dawn of February 4, 1961, when the angry masses with rifles in their hands stormed the San Paulo jail in Luanda, the capital of Angola. The people wanted to free the political prisoners and crush the military police headquarters.

It was the prelude to the glorious armed struggle of the Angolan people for liberation from the centuries-old Portuguese rule. The sparkle that had gone up in Luanda spread in no time to all parts of the country. The landless peasants, tenant-farmers and workers rose up against the white immigrants—oppressors. Cotton, suger-cane and coffee farms went up in flames.

By May, the patriots liberated many parts of territory bordering on the Congo (L). And Luanda, the stronghold of the colonialists, faced an immediate fall.

Things were getting very critical for the Salazar government, which turned to its bosom pals—the United States, England and West Germany—for help. And they promptly sided with the Portuguese colonialists against the people of Angola.

The armed Angolan patriots had to face the combined forces of the world colonialists from the beginning of the struggle—a fact that made their liberation struggle all the more difficult.

Yet, it could not damp the fighting spirit of the Angolan people. On the contrary, it emboldened them and steeled them.

Five years ago, they started the fight almost barehanded. But today, the ranks of their military strength have been expanded greatly. The national-liberation armed forces which were formed in Siera and Kamba in the mountainous areas in February 1961, now have powerful bases on the prairies and mountainous areas in north and central parts. They are active in nine out of the thirteen provinces, and an area of 250,000 square kilometres, three times as large as Portugal is under their control.

The Korean people are very happy over the successes scored by the Angolan people. Of course, the Angolans have not yet won the full victory. An arduous struggle is still ahead of them. And the 4,800,000 Angolans know it, and everyone, young and old, is doing his utmost for the cause.

Indomitable are the people who know why and for whom they are fighting. And the Angolan people will overthrow the colonialists and win the final victory for freedom and independence.

The Stars and Stripes Thrown Out

EXHIBITED in the Memorial of the Patriotic War of Liberation in Pyongyang are the Stars and Stripes and many colours of the mercenary armies of Washington—flags once carried by the aggressive U.S. army that launched the Korean war and its satellites.

Having started the war in Korea on June 25, 1950, the U.S. imperialists invaded North Korea with the Stars and Stripes proudly flying.

The enemy threw one-third of its crack divisions and almost the entire U.S. occupation army in Japan into the Korean war. And more than 20 billion dollars and 73 million tons of ammunition were used. Then there was a parade of notorious generals of the Pentagon; MacArthur, Walker, Ridgway, Van Fleet, Clark...

What did they get out of it? Heavy casualties and one defeat after another at the hands of the Korean people and the Korean People's Army who fought to defend the country's independence and freedom.

Even MacArthur, the commander of the U.N. forces at the time, confessed that the situation of the battle front was most hopeless, putting him in a disadvantageous position for which there was little he could do.

Then Clark lamented over the fact that the U.S. had to sign an armistice agreement for the first time in American history, minus victory.

In the Korean war the U.S. suffered over 397,000 dead and wounded.

The Stars and stripes displayed in the Memorial of the Patriotic War of Liberation in Pyongyang speaks of the shameful history of aggression of U.S. imperialism and foretells its coming, final doom.

His Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, presents a cup and medals to the Korean footballers, in congratulation of their victory over the Australian team

Sports News

Korean Footballers Beat Australian Rivals

THE Asian regional elimination contests for the World Football Championships for 1966 took place in the Cambodian capital of Pnom Penh on November 21 and 24, 1965.

The first match took place at the Pnom Penh Stadium, where some 80,000 football fans packed.

The Australian eleven had beaten footballers of many countries and it is a well known, strong team.

Within ten minutes after the game started, the Korean team scored the first goal, when a thunderous applause and cheers shook the whole stadium.

The Korean team held the initiative in the game all the way. Their skills and strong fighting spirit impressed everyone. Their well combined strong defence and swift attack simply baffled the footballers from Australia.

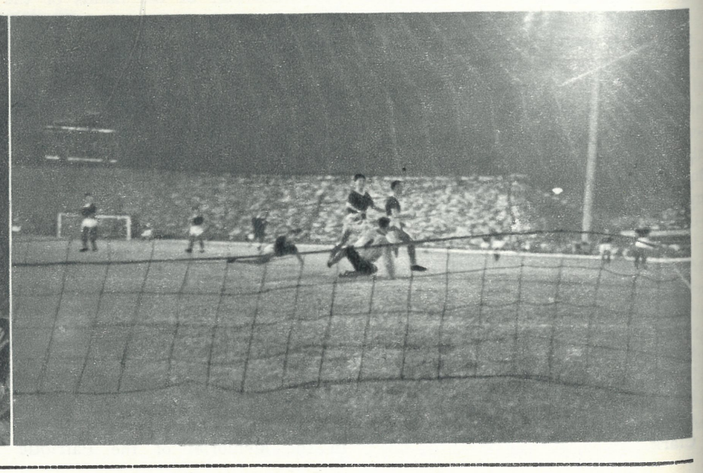
Reporting on the first match A.P. said: "The counter-attack of the North Koreans was devastating. On the 74th minute the Koreans scored their fifth goal. Playing an ever more rapid game, the Koreans dominated the field and scored their sixth goal on the 82nd minute. The play of the Australians was upset by the extreme agility of the North Koreans." Then an A.F.P. dispatch stated that the North Koreans became the centre of public interest, for they were expected to win the next game which was scheduled to play in Pnom Penh on the 24th.

The second game ended with a score of 3:1 in favour of our footballers. When the game was over all spectators rose to their feet, shouting "Korea!" "Korea!"

By sweeping the series of two games, the Korean team has been qualified to take part in the 8th World Football Championships which are scheduled to meet in London in July 1966.

Spectators cheer as the Korean team scores another goal

A scene of the match between the Korean and Australian football team



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